

In deepest sympathy

~~Who ack. needed?~~

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Warner Harbison

Swickley, Perry Warren

... work shelves

Sell

Give away

Destroy

Stamp "discarded" or marks  
removed or lacking

In affectionate remembrance  
of Robert Eliot Spear

REV. JAMES RAMSAY SWAIN, D. D.

and Mrs. Swain

826 SOUTH 48TH STREET  
PHILADELPHIA 43, PA.

# The Shepherd of Our Days

THE NEW YEAR GREETINGS  
OF  
JAMES RAMSAY SWAIN, D.D.  
PASTOR EMERITUS OF  
WOODLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
PHILADELPHIA  
1948

To

Fanny M. Jessup Swain

who, in love,

left her early home among the shepherds of Syria  
to share with me the "goodness and mercy"  
of the Shepherd-Lord in two Pastorates  
in America

## The Twenty-third Psalm

The twenty-third Psalm is a universal favorite. We learn it in our childhood. We cherish it throughout our lives, and the saints of God repeat it with their dying breath. James Stalker calls it, "The Psalm of Psalms".

There is a story, however, that is told of a Scotch entertainer (it may have been Harry Lauder), how that when he returned to his native land after a popular American tour, the folk of his home town gave him a public reception. In the course of the evening he was called upon for a few remarks, and he chose to recite the Psalm. The recitation was followed by prolonged applause. Then the minister of the kirk was asked to conclude the evening, and he did so as he also recited the Psalm. His recitation, however, was met with complete silence. Harry Lauder, if it was he, rose to the occasion as he remarked, "You have paid our minister the perfect tribute. I know the *Psalm*. He knows the *Shepherd*."

"Beyond the sacred page" let us, therefore, seek the "Living Lord" as we first of all realize that the Psalm is summed up in the words: "The Lord is my Shepherd". It is a striking fact that so often the conclusion of a Psalm is found at its commencement. Thus the 27th Psalm begins, "The Lord is my light and my salvation". All that follows is but an unfolding of that fact. Also in this Psalm, all that follows the opening words is but the fulfilment of them. So Leslie Weatherhead, in closing his interpretation of the Psalm, tells of a child who had not yet learned the Psalm accurately, who began, "The Lord is my Shepherd—that's all I want". There is a lesson in her mistake, but the words are given a richer, fuller meaning for us all by the verses that follow them.

Turning therefore to these verses let me call your attention to the fact that in the next four verses we have, in the background, the story of the shepherd's

day with his sheep; and that each portion of the day—the morning, the noon, the afternoon, the evening and the night are described in a brief but marvelously revealing phrase.

First, there is the *morning*. "He maketh me to lie down in green pastures." Having slept as "the door" of the sheepfold during the night, the shepherd rises up before dawn, and, calling his own sheep by name, leads them out where he knows the pastures are. In a land where it does not rain for six months of the year, "the grass withereth", and the sheep must depend altogether upon the shepherd to lead them where the pastures may be found. Sometimes it is at the foot of a snowbank. At other times, in a deep and shadowed valley by running water. Then, having given his flock sufficient pasture, the shepherd puts his staff upon the bell-weather sheep and causes it to lie down that the other sheep may do likewise—sometimes in the shadow of a great rock, sometimes in the shade of a tree, or at the entrance of a cave.

Then, at the *noon* hour—"He leadeth me beside the still waters". Thus, in the "Song of Songs" we read, 'Tell me, O my beloved, where thou waterest thy flock at the noon-tide hour, and I will be there'.

A shepherd in the East is as familiar with the watering-places as with the pastures and though they usually are wells, or cisterns, they may also be beside streams of water where he has made a quiet pool for his sheep to drink. It is marvellously beautiful to see how the shepherd brings the sheep to "the still waters" in squads, seven or eight at a time. There is never any confusion, or disorder, because of his careful and attentive management of his flock. Then, when the watering is finished, the sheep are led back to their resting place until the heat of the day is passed and the afternoon has come.

In Palestine there are no fences, or barriers, to the fields through which the shepherd leads his flock and he has, therefore, to be continually on the watch lest any member of his flock wanders into forbidden paths—into a barley or a wheat field. Indeed, his name as a good shepherd is at stake, and if a sheep is

found trespassing it might be difficult to reclaim it as his own. He will often, therefore, take his sling from his belt and a smooth stone from his scrip and hurl the stone in the direction of the sheep, and, arresting its attention by calling "Taa! Taa! Ho! Ho!", bring it back into right paths. So the Psalmist says, "He restoreth my soul. He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His Name's sake." That is a very likely incident in the *afternoon* of the day.

Now, as *evening* comes on the shepherd may take some short cut through a narrow defile called "the valley of the shadow of death". There is a valley by this name near Beirut, Syria, and we may suppose that once a shepherd there laid down his life for his sheep. I would remind you, however, that the word "death" is not the only possible translation of the original. Literally, it is "the glen of gloom". It may include death—but death, death triumphant, I think, is referred to at the end of the Psalm. The word may mean any distress, or sorrow, in our lives.

To continue the Psalm, the enemies of the flock, under cover of the gathering darkness, have become bolder and, hiding among the rocks of the glen, threaten the life of the sheep. It is then that the shepherd has both his rod and his staff in readiness to "comfort them". The rod is a club with a handle fastened by a cord to his wrist and with a round bulbous end into which large-headed nails are driven to make it a more effective weapon of defense. The tradition is that a shepherd has the right to drive a nail into the ball of the rod every time he defeats a foe of his flock. What an illustration, therefore, the rod is of the greater power of resistance every one of us has each time he overcomes a spiritual foe!

The staff is most often a straight stick about chin high. It is very seldom a crook. The Arabic name for it is *ikkaaz*—something to lean upon. The shepherd does rest his chin upon it as he keeps watch over his flock, but he has many other uses for it also. He will not only number his sheep, or lift them out of places of peril or strike down mulberry or grape leaves for their eating, but also reprove them with



it. Thus, with rod and staff he not only "comforts" his sheep but likewise leads them safely all the way THROUGH their glen of gloom.

Finally, *night* comes, and at this period of the day we are told of the shepherd's most tender care for the still needy members of his flock. True, there are many who think that in these words, "Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies", we have a reference to David's royal life when he was conqueror of his foes and feasted in his palace home. But George Adam Smith is certainly right in saying that "these words are just as pastoral as those which have preceded them". I cannot agree with him, however, in saying that they refer to the fugitive who has found refuge in the shepherd's tent, but do understand them to refer to the care of the shepherd for his particularly needy sheep.

Thus, when we read of the table that is spread, we are to see the sheep, that are in need of special food, provided with some tid-bit of pasture—mulberry leaves and spears of barley—as they are laid upon the spread-out *aba*, (the coat of the shepherd) as a table; with the enemies of the flock, the jackal, or the hyena, prowling near. So likewise when we are told "He anointeth my head with oil", we are to see the sheep that has been rescued from "the lion and the bear" but whose hurt head (the vital part) is in need of anointing with healing oil.

Or, once again when we read, "He maketh my cup to run over", we are to see, perhaps, the little lamb that has been born during the day and carried in the shepherd's bosom until nightfall, given its first drink of water from the over-flowing cup in the shepherd's hand.

Now, every need of every member of the flock has been satisfied and the sheep are kept safely within the fold for the night.

Such is the shepherd's day with his sheep. But, if this be the experience of one day, may not the sheep expect the same care throughout all their days, and may not the closing words of the Psalm be a fitting climax to its perfect unity as the Psalmist sings of

himself, "Surely, goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life" and in the *Eternal* day I shall dwell in the house of the Lord—not then for days, or for years, but for—ever.

With this background of the Psalm consider briefly three significant notes of it.

1. It is *Personal*—"The Lord is *my* Shepherd". The Psalm, therefore, is like our song "America", "*My* Country 'tis of thee". Not that it is not *our* country, but that each one of us can sing of it as his own. So in this Psalm, "The Lord is *my* Shepherd". Indeed, there are twenty-seven personal and possessive pronouns in these brief six verses and, perhaps, the most significant of them all is found in the fourth verse. There the "he", of verses two and three, changes to "thou". That is, "in the valley of the shadow" God becomes more real and near and personal to us than at any other time in our lives and we say, "*Thou* art with me".

In addressing a group of students at one of our leading preparatory schools the principal, who had a short while before lost his wife, came to me afterwards with tears of joy streaming down his cheeks as he exclaimed, "I am not alone, I am not alone! I too can say, '*Thou* art with me'."

2. Note also *how true to life* this Psalm is. The green pastures and still waters are often far away and difficult of approach. There are alluring ways to tempt us from the right path. There are glens of gloom through which we are called to pass. The Psalm therefore is not above the earth and its needs, but fits into all our every-day experiences whether glad or sad, whether good or evil. It assures us that the Shepherd of our days is always with us, "preserving and governing all His creatures and all their actions".

3. Again, note the *appeal* of the Psalm. You know the Psalm, but can you make it truly yours unless, like the sheep, you too hear the voice of the Shepherd and follow Him in the way in which He leads? If, therefore, you are not a follower of Him—take Him as your leader now, for only as you hear *and* follow Him can He be your Shepherd, making provision for your

every need, direct you in right paths, comfort you in your sorrows, heal all your hurt, and make your cup to run over.

Many tributes have been paid the Twenty-third Psalm. Henry Ward Beecher once called it "the nightingale Psalm of the Bible". It is that: "a song in the night". Thousands have pillowed their heads upon it in the hours of sorrow and sadness. But ever since I started a lark near Swanston, Scotland, one morning long ago, I have thought of it as the lark song of the soul—a song that begins down among the "green pastures" of life and makes its way up and up through all the varied experiences of our days to the very gates of God, gates through which we shall enter at last and where the Lord of the Psalm shall appear as the Shepherd still, "leading us to fountains of living water" for—ever!

"Amen, so let it be:

Life from the dead is in that word,  
'Tis immortality."



IN A PALESTINIAN SHEPHERD'S COSTUME,  
ADDRESSING  
AN AUDIENCE OF GIRL SCOUTS  
IN CLARKE PARK

MISS JEAN C COCHRAN  
1003 PARK AVENUE  
PLAINFIELD, NEW JERSEY

November 27, 41

My dear Emma,

Though I know  
you will be deluged with  
letters at this time I can-  
not refrain from adding  
my lame tribute to the  
thousands you are receiv-  
ing. I say "lame" because  
anything I can say is  
so terribly inadequate to  
express the noble life  
that Robert Spear <sup>led</sup> is  
countless as well as in-

inspires one to feel that one human life could add so much to the betterment of the time in which he lived. The power of the unseen and the eternal have figured the work in this world which he did and there is his the greatness of his influence for he lived as seeing one who was invisible and he put that into all his work showing that a really great mystic can win practical results.

This week I have been recalling all the influence he had over the young people of our generation. Certainly

through those whom he influenced to go to all the distant lands he might be said to have been one of those who "turned the world up side down."

I have been thinking of those college audiences at the Northfield auditorium where his earnest pleas impressed the college boys so, <sup>deeply</sup> that no one spoke to each other after the benediction, but each group left in silence and all the way home you heard no conversation or laughter there was only reverent silence. And after

fifty years I can remember  
some of the titles of his  
addresses, "They looked  
unto him and were radiant  
and "Remember Jesus Christ"  
It was through his talks  
that Jesus Christ became  
very near and very dear  
to many of us.

There are many other  
happy memories of you  
and the children at  
Shamond Pond and the  
fun we used to have on  
the fishing trips. Your  
friendship and the  
knowledge of what  
you and he stood for

MISS JEAN C COCHRAN  
1003 PARK AVENUE  
PLAINFIELD, NEW JERSEY

Made life hotter for the  
rest of us more mundane  
folks.

To-day is Thanksgiving  
Day and one of my  
great courses of Thanksgiving  
is that I have been able  
to call friends people  
like you and Robert.

I am not speaking  
of what this loss means  
to you but after fifty  
four years of beautiful  
fellowship the time  
will not be long.



With love and sympathy,  
for each one of you, especially  
Margaret and Holly whom  
I know best.

Affectionately Yours  
Jean C. Cochran

Driebergsche weg 3  
Leid  
Febr. 12 1948  
in Nederlande

Dear Mrs Speer

Coming back from my journey from Eastern Asia I heard the news of the passing away of your husband. May I express my very warm sympathy to you. I can understand how great will be the emptiness in your life after this long period of married life with a man like Dr. Speer who through the depth and richness of his spiritual life had so much to give. But how wonderful that God gave him the physical and mental strength to serve and give to others until the last. I remember your daughter Margaret telling me last year how full a programme Dr. Speer still had. Mrs Finley gave me Dr. Speer little book: Just five minutes as a Christmas gift last year. It was used too by the Indian General Secretary in

the Y. W. C. A. hostel in Bombay. It has  
so many beautiful and helpful thoughts.

Your husband represented with Dr.  
Mott, Dr. William Adams Brown and others  
a generation of wonderful American leader-  
ship in the missionary and ecumenical  
field. They are given us by God and  
leave us, but how few of the same calibre  
are there to take up their task.

With affectionate greetings

Corry Paul Schoenly

2887 San Gabriel  
Pasadena, Calif.

Nov. 25<sup>th</sup> '47

Mrs. Spar and Family

My Very Dear Friends

Ever since word came  
to me this morning of  
the translation of  
your (yes our) loved one  
my thoughts have been  
largely with him trying  
to imagine his radiant  
entrance into his  
Master's presence  
O, what arm loads  
of trophies he had  
to cast at those blessed  
feet. I have seen  
the groups of angels  
round about saying  
"There's one who has  
given us so much joy

2

through his years on earth by sending to their savior so many sinners that repented.

Really my ideas of the actual conditions in heaven are very vague as I can't be sure that the myriads of people he has helped are welcoming him - but anyway - He is so absorbed in adoration of Himself he so wonderfully served + given to ~~be~~ so much like, his attention is all there.

I have not forgotten you + your arrival + loneliness but I know you all well enough to know that you

would soon find His  
 God of all comfort  
 and have your ears  
 open to His whispering  
 of love & His words of  
 wisdom & guidance.

So far, we have heard  
 nothing but a line  
 or so in Los Angeles  
 Times street "Robt E. Speer  
 died last night in Philadel-  
 phia", I have wondered  
 whether he was called in  
 the midst of a service  
 or whether he was in  
 that vicinity for a little  
 visit with Margaret.

I imagine it will be  
 almost impossible  
 for Constance (?) to get  
 over from England but  
 of course ~~you~~ you can get  
 home. You know

I have <sup>had</sup> ~~had~~ enough experience  
of really intimate  
friends with special families  
in this land - in fact  
that I feel very near to  
you all.

Words fail me now  
in expressing to you  
my deepest feelings  
so I will just promise  
to commit your future  
plans to Him who  
doth all things well and  
not ask you to read any  
more of my words. I am  
not quite so well lately so  
have not seen many people  
today but all express  
the same appreciation  
of dear D.!! (I fear that I have  
always felt; He has laughed  
about being younger  
than Elsie and M. W.)

read me. You know  
 the three of us were  
 born within the same  
 12 mos. year. I was born  
 29<sup>th</sup> - I to be 1<sup>st</sup> - he  
 I didn't remember  
 but I was in the boat  
 I was in the boat  
 passed his 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary  
 for I am 81<sup>st</sup> - to  
 make my 81<sup>st</sup>

God bless you all  
 May His everlasting  
 arms be folded over  
 all.

Lovingly  
 Mary Palmer Wood



MISS CLARA MCMURTRIE  
HUNTINGDON  
PENNSYLVANIA

Feb 22. 1948

My dearest Emma! -

I have so much I want to say to you - for you are constantly in my thoughts - You are free to place your letters with me - even in one. I found my own feelings exactly - Mrs. Kasinjer's -

I have often felt - you & Paulina on a higher plane and know so much more than I do. How could you stand me?

Yet - the four days I had Pauline to my self. I do not know how he felt; but it was heaven to me.

I had some verses sent to  
me when I was passing  
through deep waters. The  
last was Mrs.

I was so very weary  
Recently you would not know  
that I - a little former -  
had laid the burden down -

The vein - but you are truly  
beautiful and comforting. I am  
having some copies made -

I have written these in memory  
of your nephew's death. When  
Mr. was here he told me one  
of the Scotts from Pittsburg had  
married your nephew and she  
had asked him - if he knew

any of the Scott family when  
they visit us - I think

But since your nephew was in  
the Hacking Trust Co. - It is  
terribly sad - and I can very  
truly appreciate - what it means  
to have your dear ones go - one  
after another. I have only  
Mig left.

I think Tom  
dear you and Bob were to each  
other. And his going has  
left a terrible void - Bob's going  
has brought Hannah and very  
many dear ones. Hannah to me  
and I often wonder how long  
the Lord will let me stay here  
when I am so weak -

Is't Robt's prayer beautiful? Page 58.

I have thought some of the others  
with out any names were his &  
number of people are reading his  
"Fin Minutes" & - and his loving, loyal  
prayer - People in the County are  
not of the way places reading it.

I have not said anything to any  
one only my wife & Chas. - but I am  
having a tablet raised for our Church  
in Memory of Robt. - If any one  
desires recognition he does - Altho'  
he did not care for it - but  
he will be the best - I just  
long to help you - but I know you  
are living with Robt - and surely  
help - ever help a bit. With dearest  
love and every, many thoughts

Affectionately Aunt Clara -

RHINELANDER 4-7792

Thanksgiving Day, 1967.

38 EAST 69TH STREET

11/22/67 ✓

As from Millbrook, NY.

Dear Mrs. Speer.

The sad news of Dr. Speer's death carried me back in memory across the years to the many happy days I spent under your hospitable roof at Lylewood. What a good time you always gave me! I remember so vividly the fun that Marnie and Elliott and I had together and how much I enjoyed telling tall stories to Patty and Bob as they sat on my knees. But those visits were inspiring as well as just enjoyable because of the wonderful

Christian atmosphere of your  
home. You were always my  
idea of kindness and  
understanding personified, and  
Dr. Speer seemed the very  
embodiment of integrity and  
strength. I always left your  
house sensing more keenly  
the reality of God and the  
true meaning of Christ's way  
of life. And I realize  
that you and Dr. Speer  
must have raised thousands  
of <sup>other</sup> boys and girls who came  
in fortunate contact with  
you to a higher level of  
faith and of right living.  
I shall always be deeply

indebted to you both and  
grateful for my good fortune  
in coming under your  
influence.

I have ~~been~~ been thinking  
of you and Marnie with  
great affection and sympathy  
these last few days, and  
I send you my love in  
your hour of grief. The recent  
death of my own dear Mother  
enables me to know how  
hard it is to surmount the  
loneliness of separation, ~~even~~  
in spite of one's Christian  
faith.

Affectionately,  
Ed Bulling

✓  
Hulton. N. Y.

Dec 5, 1947.

My very dear Mrs. Spier:

Your dear note of Dec. 2<sup>d</sup>  
has reached us & we thank you  
for sharing with us your tri-  
umphant faith & the beautiful  
prayer & the quotations used  
by Dr. Spier in his talk at  
Poughkeepsie - for which he  
was preparing that morning



when Charlotte + I called on you at  
Rookledge. I am so glad to have had  
this recent touch with you + with him.

The first time I ever saw him was  
in my college days, 45 years ago, when he  
spoke at Syracuse Uni. on "Every man's  
life a plea of God" - a talk which I have  
never forgotten. His unwavering faith +  
courage - + yours - have been a guiding  
firm for many of my generation in the  
darkness of our time, + all of us who  
have been privileged to know you both  
are deeply grateful for what you have  
meant + continue to mean in our lives.

I am so glad that Pattie is with  
you. I have greatly enjoyed meeting her  
at Ethel's in London this past year.  
Please give my love to her + to Marie.

And as always I send  
very much love to you.

Affectionately

W  
Anna Klein

99 Claremont Avenue  
New York 27, N.Y.  
December 3 1947

Dear Mrs. Spicer:-

I want to add my small  
tribute of love and admiration for  
your husband to the thousands  
that are being expressed.

"There were giants in those  
days" always seems appropriate  
when I think of his outstanding  
contribution to our generation.  
He was an inspiration and a  
fearless guide to us in our life-  
time of missionary work. And  
personally, in my own hour of great  
need, he gave of his time and  
of himself to write to me a friend-  
ly letter every two weeks during  
months of lonely wait.

So I can share with you, to this small extent, in your supreme loss; for there is none greater in our human experience, than the losing of the one with whom all life's richest and most tender experiences have been mutual.

Cherish the bright and happy picture I have of both of you standing together beside the road in front of your home, so kindly saying good-bye to me after a memorable short stay in your community.

"He that is faithful unto the end" is taking on new meaning as Karl and I now approach retirement. It is in more active years Dr. Speer remains a guide. Karl joins me in loving sympathy to you and Margaret.

Affectionately yours,  
Helen B. Reichner

4/10/11

MIRA B. WILSON  
EAST NORTHFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

Dear Mr. Spurr, It seems strange to be writing you on Thanksgiving day of Dr. Spurr's passing. And yet in another sense it seems appropriate, for one cannot but be thankful for all that his life has meant, even for people like myself on the very periphery of his contacts.

The faculty want to join me in this word of sympathy, deeply felt.

But forgetting the faculty for a moment and bearing my own personal witness, may I say that more convincing of the truth of Christianity than any of his addresses or books was the way in which you & Dr. Spess met the difficult days just after the tragedy at Ford Cottage.

As I saw people coming in to console & going away themselves reassured & comforted by the way Dr. Spess met them I knew that this was a faith so authentic that it could neither be forgotten nor invalidated. I should have said "thank you" long ago. I do so now to you both on Thanksgiving day, 1947

Affectionately yours,  
Mira Wilson



WYCLIFFE COLLEGE  
TORONTO, CANADA

November 26.

Dear Mrs. Speer:-

Bill's letter has just this moment come to me with its saddening announcement of the death of your dear husband. I do want you to know how deeply I feel for you in this your time of sorrow and bereavement. Yet it is so assuring and strengthening to know so completely that he has joined that glorious company of the Saints who stand around the Throne of the Lamb, praising Him into eternity. That presence which was so near to you by faith whenever you joined in prayer in the morning is now so blessedly and continuously near to him by sight; the pledge of the Spirit is now to him an abiding, unbroken and visible reality. How dare I try to express the gratitude and the joy that is in my heart, and will forever be a priceless possession, in that in coming to know him, I and all others who have had this privilege, have been blessed and

encouraged in the Christian life. God does seem to reserve these special blessings to be dispensed by rare Christian souls, whose human contacts with others constitute spiritual landmarks in their earthly pilgrimages. Your beloved husband has impressed my heart and conscience in just such a manner.

Dear Gannie, how grateful we all are for him and for his magnificent power and service for Jesus Christ in his days. And all who have come to know you realize full well how richly you have contributed to and shared in all his good works for the promotion of the Kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Please accept the love and sympathy of one who is so eternally grateful to you both and may God in whom there can be no separation deepen and confirm the fellowship which He by his providence so graciously and wonderfully called into being.

Very affectionately yours,

Bill Coleman



✓  
122 EAST 76<sup>TH</sup> STREET

Dear Mrs. Spear:

You are a wonderful person.

To think of your coming to the World  
Service Council luncheon and the  
National Board meeting when your  
heart was so full of sorrow. I know

You came because you realized  
how much we needed you, and we  
severely did. Instead of our being  
able to help you in this time, you  
are the one who is giving us  
courage and strength.

I can't tell you how much  
I appreciate the continuing  
support you give us. It means  
everything to me as did your  
parting message when Grace  
Elliott and I left for Chic.  
I thought of it and you often.

I know that the realization  
that your friends are thinking of

You these days brings you comfort  
and I hope you will always  
remember to count me among  
them.

Affectionately always

Constance Myra Anderson

December 8, 1947

Monday morning

Beloved

Before Louis called, I felt at rest about  
Rob - that he had slipped away - and  
as I waited, reading the book of Romans -  
I believed it was already his experience  
"As for me, I will behold thy face, in  
righteousness: I shall be satisfied,  
when I awake with thy likeness."  
His spirit is facing forth into the  
great and wondrous experience -  
greeted and welcomed by Elliott and  
Eleanor - and all who loved him  
The Church Invisible - whom he sees

after H - and witnessed to - as he  
nurtured and <sup>served</sup> ~~served~~ "the Church  
Heaven here upon Earth" - will welcome  
him - and thank him - and they  
will bring him at last to the Beatific  
vision of the Lord in Glory - "Tarry here until the  
with me a moment"

When the trumpets sound for him -  
with all his modesty he will have to receive  
it - They see almost hear their joy -  
almost - but not wholly - until they  
join him - when he will rejoice as  
they sound for thee, beloved, too.

I am with thee - moment by moment -  
but thy upholding strength is from the hand  
of all-hope and Power -

Rosemary

RHODA E. MCCULLOCH  
349 EAST 50TH STREET  
NEW YORK CITY

Dear E. B. S. -

Do you remember that when Henriette went away, you often called me from Lakeville - every week or so? I have never been able to tell you how much that meant to me. For all of these days I have waited & missed writing to you because I knew that many many people would be with you, and that later you might need new voices telling you of their loving thoughts for you.

You know - for I am sure that I have talked this over with you - that I believe that it is gratitude for the life of the person that most excellently characterises any experience of loss. Our loss is a high feast-day for the one whom we no longer see. We celebrate with him his high calling, as we give his thanks for all that he

RHODA E. MCCULLOCH  
349 EAST 50TH STREET  
NEW YORK CITY

has meant, not to us alone but to the world of his relationships.

How can all of us who, especially in our younger days, were touched by the hand of St. Ipeer ever fulfill in renewed devotion our gratitude for this person!

Among all the men who influenced me by their expression of faith, he showed me how the intellectual honesty of the secular could be combined with child-like faith in all that we can but faintly comprehend. He meant this to many generations of students. In far parts of the world, people who are living dangerously will stand more firmly as they think of the life-commitment to which he called them.

RHODA E. MCCULLOCH

349 EAST 50TH STREET

NEW YORK CITY

In the days when it will be hard to cast true  
pure loneliness into that new experience of God which is  
the other side of loneliness, remember that many people will  
be holding you in their hearts. And let me be one of them -  
for always.

My love to you  
-Rhoda

December fifteen



CHARLES R. WATSON  
LAND TITLE BUILDING, PHILADELPHIA 10, PA.

Nov 26/47

2933 Haverford Road  
Ardmore Pa

My dear Mrs Speer

The sad news of your husband's death came to me only through the newspapers & too late for me to attend the Memorial Service at Bryn Mawr or Englewood. I owe you this letter of sympathy & only wish I could do more for you. I prize so greatly the lovely little visit I last had of you & I in your home at Lakelville. You so graciously added to the visit by having tea, quite in the Cairo Egypt fashion, which added a touch of homeliness. You in infinitely greater degree, but yet overwhelmingly for all of us, must be a sense of deep and irreparable loss. Robert was to me one of the very

one of the great <sup>2</sup> reflections of his Lord  
here on earth. I can truly say that  
no single personality had a greater  
influence in my life than Robert E. Josselyn,  
and this continued for year after year,  
& decade after decade. For the University  
at Cairo, he allowed us to use his name  
as one of our sponsors, having seen the  
Christian work we were doing at that  
strategic center with his own eyes.

What a privilege to me to help  
arrange his itinerary in Cairo &  
reserve rooms for him at the Regency  
Hotel & protect them by one big union  
missionary meeting in our new hall,  
Ewart Memorial, from the many, many  
isolated missionary claims that would  
have been made on his time & strength  
by the many missions that converged  
at Cairo.

No details are mine of his

CHARLES R. WATSON

LAND TITLE BUILDING, PHILADELPHIA 10, PA.

passing from us, whether by extended illness or by sudden non-going, but shall learn in due time. I am sure New York & the Trust. Board will want to express their wishes in some meeting & hope to attend that.

Somorrow with us is Thanksgiving Day & now we can thank God for His marvellous goodness in giving us such a wonder & guide & model of the Christian life in so long, — 80 years is the age reported. He was Princeton 87 & was Princeton 94. So near was he to me in age & as ideal. So you my deepest sympathy goes, but how, would you must be of your inheritance of his memory.

With sincere sympathy from Mrs Watson & myself  
Charles R. Watson

6747

1854 Bally's Flat  
San Francisco 23

V  
Emma dear —

My thoughts, my love and my  
eyes fully are with you to-day as  
I try to picture you in Wagon  
Wagon with the hope that  
Margaret is not far away —  
I have been thinking and  
thinking again of the

Last time Rob was in San  
Francisco when he was at  
fall of life and vigor and  
interest and his wonderful  
personality more impressive  
than ever — How different  
the world would be if there  
were more Robert Officers  
as the influence for good  
of the race can never die —  
Very love to Margaret and  
again very deep love to you —

Affectionately

Edw. C. Tinslow —

November 25

Edw. C. Tinslow

Green meadows  
Dauphin, Pa.

Dearest Auntie Emma

I wanted very  
very much to come to Bryer  
Mauz on Monday for the  
memorial service for Uncle  
Polo. Unfortunately, my

whenever were making things  
difficult for us, and I  
couldn't <sup>make</sup> the trip.  
But I have thought  
so much of you and Uncle  
Pol these last few days  
and wishing there were some  
way I could be of help or  
comfort. I haven't seen  
either you or Uncle Pol  
very much lately, but I  
remember him so vividly even  
when I was quite a little  
girl. I remembered how he  
played "The Log Cabin" over  
Christmas at Grandmother  
Baileys when we were all

there. And when we were at  
boarding school I remember  
how proud Emily and I were  
to say we were his niece  
and how we were expected to  
live up to a very high  
standard because we were.

You and he have



always been a sort of shining  
light to the rest of us  
and made it easier to live  
through unhappy times because  
we thought of your courage  
and christianity.

I hope I can see  
you sometimes soon, dear

Auntie Emma and in  
the meantime I send you  
my dear love and deep  
sympathy in which Ed  
joins us

lovingly

Frances

November 26 - 1947

Mrs. HOWARD LEWIS ALLER ANTIGUA, GUATEMALA

My Precious Jane;

My sister Loulie has just written me of the news of Dr. Spear's passing. This is no time to write you a long letter, only this short word of love and deep longing to be near you right now. I feel like taking the plane home at once, but know I can do but little right now for you and that you are surrounded by family and devoted friends. So well I know that YOU know the everlasting arms are around you, and the Comforter is close at hand with you all the time. I had no idea when I saw you last that the case with him was so serious. My whole heart goes out to you, and I offer you all the love and prayers possible. Would you care to come here for a while? There would be time for rest, in the warm sun, and time for our blessed talks when you might feel like that. Certainly the Father will guide you at each step of the way, and bless you in all your plans and decisions. I love you so - and I love him so. He was a man whose love for mankind we all felt, I think because it was so rooted in his love for Christ. His work goes on in the inspiration of all he did, all he wrote, all he was - and is. For I feel sure he is still loving and helping us, and the world he gave his life to heal and teach.

God bless you my darling.

Devotedly yours,

Catherine

117 103 West Coult. Nov. 25<sup>th</sup> '47

103 WEST COULTER STREET

GERMANTOWN, PHILADELPHIA 44, PENNA.

Dear Emma Doll:

Do you remember  
when you told me, a  
boy of 10 or 11 years of age,  
on the porch of our North-  
field home, Holston Hall,  
to call you that? It  
was there was it not  
that you met your hus-  
band?

I was shocked to see  
in to-day's paper notices

of his passing. Some how  
I've always thought of him  
as living forever in in  
his, your, home at Lake-  
ville. What a wonderful  
inspiration he has been  
to me all my life. <sup>I loved him.</sup>

Heaven has become  
so much more real a  
place since I have  
spoken in audible con-  
versation with so many  
of my friends who have  
passed beyond the veil.

2  
118 WEST COULTER STREET  
GERMANTOWN, PHILADELPHIA 44, PENNA.

They tell us its beauty & wonder cannot be described in our language, most blessed of all he is in the Presence, face to face, with his, our, Lord Jesus Christ, that most & blessed of all experiences. You will miss him, of course, but only for a little while & his going will but make our

own entrance the work  
to be anticipated.

I haven't seen you  
for many years, but  
that makes no difference  
Our friendship is eternal  
& will go on from  
where we last laid  
it down.

Faithfully & affectionately yours  
A. D. Wood

Sunday Dec. 15 '47,

✓ Dear Mrs. Speer,  
My thoughts and prayers  
have been for you since  
getting the message of  
Mr. Speer's passing.

It was a great privilege  
for me to have known  
such a wonderful person.

To hope you are coping  
well under this great  
sorrow, but know very  
well how brave, how  
faithful and uplifting  
you will be during Mr.  
Speer's other illness, I  
know God will give  
you the strength and  
courage in His time  
of need -



Was sorry I couldn't go  
to you when I received  
the sad message.

This patient I went home  
with to Warren Pa. was  
an elderly woman no  
sight in one eye at all  
and the operating eye was  
not too good, when we  
left on Tuesday after talking  
with Miss Margaret  
thought I'd return Thursday  
night, only took one  
overnight with me,  
her brother was very  
apprehensive <sup>about her</sup> since things  
that might cause her  
to lose what sight she  
had he ask me to stay a  
week, when that week  
was up he ask me to

stay another week. Had to  
catch her very closely to  
keep her from using the  
cell too much, such as  
reading and writing and  
singing over.

Wanted so much to visit  
you while I was up there  
but didn't have your address  
with the Brown House address  
is I was sure I wouldn't  
be gone but two days.  
Mrs. Speed is I can't  
do any service at all to you  
please don't hesitate to  
call on me.

Beppie finishing this letter  
thought I'd telephone you  
at 7 a.m., that

answered and told me you  
were still in  
London 4/12/1900 -

With great expectations  
Your friend

Carl Williams

Box 27  
Yorktown Heights, N.Y.  
November 28, 1947

Dear Emma and Margaret,

I have just heard by telephone of Rob's passing, and I have no words to express the memories, the hope, the sympathy with you which arise in me.

Rob came to me in a dream not many days ago. I treasure this experience of his presence, and think how much freer his spirit is now. So the impression deepens that his ministry here may continue even more fruitfully in unseen ways, and that from it we may "increase the area of our awareness". Surely this applies to the continuing ministry of prayer by those who no longer "see in a mirror dimly,

but face to face." For surely they desire that we share with them more meaningfully the prayer: "Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as [they see it] in heaven."

I am most eager to see both of you, and will gladly go to N. Y. C., if either of you should be there with time to spare. I suppose there is no chance of seeing you here, at least for some time to come. That, of course, would be wonderful, if it can be.

The telephone message said that you (Emma) were reported to be ill, but there were no particulars, and I hope there is nothing serious. Having no inkling of where you may be, I am sending this note by the next mail to you and Margaret at Bryn Mawr.

Jean has gone to town for the day. I know she would join in all I have written with love and sympathy.

As ever

Gilbert B.

Pacific Grove.  
DEC 10 - 1947

My dear Mrs. Deane -

My Dad's my love and sympathy to all the love and sympathy that is, I know, being poured in upon you -

I have been thinking of the first time I ever heard of you. It was at a Presbyterian meeting in the Brick Church in Rochester nearly 7 1/2 years ago!

The last time I ever knew was when I came to see you, six years ago in Lakeville - He was on a ladder painting the garage! Do you remember?

And then there were all the  
conference times to men -

It is so wonderful to go through  
the world making the contribution  
that he made to the thinking of  
young people — and older  
people too — The world is a  
better place for his living, died.

And I am grateful for your  
life too — I don't begin to tell  
you what it has meant to me.

With my love to you

As ever, affectionately yours  
John A. Blair

Dear Mrs. Decker.

So many thoughts have been running  
 through my mind, as I have viewed  
 the work of it and its operation,  
 that of you have given  
 to so many, and in a  
 more different way.  
 I have been thinking about you  
 and your love, and  
 realize that a little  
 drop in visit, which you  
 so graciously let us pay  
 you in August 1741, has  
 I don't mean to me, and



the difficulties that have  
beset me, but which began  
on my return, will  
continue to this day.

I love to think of you  
now, knowing that the  
separation is only for  
a time, and that your  
memories are sufficient  
to fill the lonely hours.

With your love and  
tender sympathy.

Edith Winfree

Nov 26 1947

✓  
Sunnyside, Plainfield, New Jersey

November 26<sup>th</sup>

My dear dear Mrs Speer —

You must be conscious of the  
Love and Caring that is surrounding  
you as all your countless  
friends trails of love with  
understanding and deep sympathy.  
I don't believe any two people  
ever have had more devotion  
and affection than you 2

Your wonderful husband or have  
been more perfect friends them-  
selves!

So I hope that you  
are getting comfort and strength  
from your lovely family and  
your friends, as I well know  
you are receiving them from  
your Christian faith and  
belief -

My heart goes out to you

Sunnyside, Plainfield, New Jersey

in these days of change and re-  
adjustment and I wish there  
was something I could do to help  
you, dear Mrs Speer -

When I was a young girl, I  
well remember Mr Speer's coming  
here to our church to preach  
and sing him with our  
beloved Mr Richards - And my  
early memories of Northfield

Have vivid pictures of him and  
his great sermons and the tre-  
mendous influence he had on  
all young people. He was an  
inspiration to countless people  
else myself for so many  
years and I am so grateful  
for the privilege of knowing  
him.

And you know, I am  
sure, how thankful I am for  
every association with you

Sunnyside, Plainfield, New Jersey

and all you mean to me and  
to all who know you!

Please give my loving sym-  
pathy to Marnie too. I can  
imagine what it must mean to  
love both to be together at this  
time —

Affectionately yours  
Margaret.

First Presbyterian Church  
12 WEST 12TH STREET  
NEW YORK 11, N. Y.

ALGONQUIN 4-5946

Jan. 16-1948

Dear Mrs. Speer,

Dr. Schell tells me I should send the enclosed receipt to you, - and I just hate to do it. It seems to me First Church should care for it, but then maybe I don't represent First Church. I paid the bill, but there is absolutely no hurry. I did the best I could to fill your request, but found certain flowers were not available. You probably knew this and I hoped were satisfied with what we had.

It just doesn't seem that Dr. Speer is gone. His vivid personality will remain with all of us who knew him while

First Presbyterian Church

12 WEST 12TH STREET

NEW YORK 11, N. Y.

ALGONQUIN 4-5946

2

we live.

You know how deep is our sympathy for you. You have been called to carry such heavy burdens, and have been so magnificent about it, - that it is very hard for such a lesser mortal like myself to venture to say anything to you.

Affectionately, Yours.

Florence P. Weiss



CLASS OF SERVICE

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# WESTERN UNION

JOSEPH L. EGAN  
PRESIDENT

1201

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LC = Deferred Cable

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1947 NOV 26 PM 5 28

P.HKA70 PD=WUX LOSANGELES CALIF VIA LAKEVILLE CONN 26 447P

MRS ROBERT E SPEER=

=825 MONTGOMERY AVE BRYN MAWR PENN=

SYMPATHY UNDERSTANDING AND LOVE=

EMMA DUNLOP.

*answ.*

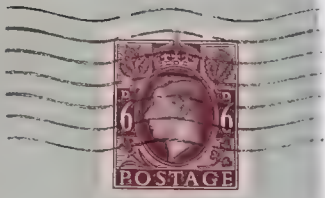
*Pass forward*

**BY AIR MAIL**

**AIR LETTER**

IF ANYTHING IS ENCLOSED  
THIS LETTER WILL BE SENT  
BY ORDINARY MAIL.

SOUTHPORT  
57 27  
27L  
1947  
LANCS



To — Mrs. Robert C. Kelly

~~40. ... ..~~

835 —  
Montgomery Ave ~~142 ... ..~~

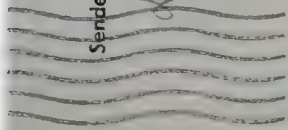
Bryn Mawr  
Pennsylvania

← Second fold here →

To open cut here →

Sender's name and address :-

*Henry ... ..  
31 ... ..  
1 ... ..*



ENGLEWOOD  
MAY 5 5 00 PM  
1948  
M.I.

← To open cut here

1 Kirkland,  
Dec. 27.

My dear Mrs. Spear,

I have just heard from  
"Home", that Mr. Spear has  
slipped away. Heaven would  
be a strange place to  
him as he entered us, for  
"with God he walked: with  
God he dwelt," and with  
God he now lives there.

would be many voices  
saying "Hail" to him, and  
what a lovely reunion it  
would be for him with your  
Eliot, and your little

daughter and your many dear  
ones, the way will seem lonely  
to you, now, but I keep  
asking God, that you may

feel the joy of all your happy  
years of companionship to  
gather more quietly than  
the sadness of your present  
~~parting~~ in the great eternity  
of things, that is "only  
for a little while."

How well I remember  
your coming to my brood  
How good you were to  
me and how she  
loved you both. Your  
influence has been very  
far reaching, even today,  
after all these years, 3,000  
miles away from you  
I recall many things  
Mr. Jew said to us all,  
and to our boys

You must feel happy that  
you made his life so full.

and happy - You must have  
had a wonderful married  
life together. I know what  
that means.

Please, dear Mr. Spencer,  
don't try to answer this  
letter, in any way. I just  
want you to know of my  
very deep sympathy.

Your most sincere friend  
Wm S. Jackson Wood

First fold here



Dear Emma: Jan 4:  
and one & across the  
pages on the Memorial  
pages for Rob; and  
I realize how his life  
has been woven into the  
web and is woven of  
thousands in this

washed, including myself.  
It came up as early in the  
morning. I can't realize  
that this New Year finds  
him before the three  
with that great Vienna  
who have washed their  
robes & made them white  
in the blood of the Lamb.

Can we not have a memorial  
service with Emma, on  
Bonds Top where we  
visualize him in those  
old precious days?

If you could  
spare half a dozen  
memorial leaflets  
I would like to send  
them to friends abroad.

Day by day may you go  
"down" - then the New  
"Year." It rather walk  
on faith with Him, than  
go alone on sight" -

Your old friend

May Mundy

*[Faint handwritten notes]*

*[Faint handwritten notes]*



PERSONAL SERVICE EMPLOYMENT AGENCY

Licensed Private Employment Agency

Eleven North Dean Street

ENGLEWOOD, N. J.

Telephone Englewood 3-4430

*Jan 13*

*5 minutes*

*Jan 13*

*(7 minutes?)*

13 January 1948

Dear Mrs. Speer,

How thoughtful of you to suggest sending me Mr. Speer's "Five Minutes." I would love to have it and I shall keep it in the office where I shall use it often for myself and for some of the people who come in. This job of mine is a constant challenge and had I known how much it would involve I doubt if I would have had the temerity to take it on. Do you remember when things used to get thick in the days when I was with you, how you used to laugh and say this was one of the days when you wished a planet would hit the earth? How often I think of that! Dealing constantly with all kinds of people is to me the best kind of a job. The difficulty is that I am very conscious of my limitations and wish I had more to give.

The snow continues to fall and old man winter has the bit in his teeth. The town struggles to dig itself out but not too successfully. Could the snow have come before last election day I believe we might have had a change of administration at last. The city government here still functions as it did before the first world war, it seems to have learned little and forgotten nothing. Our new mayor, upon taking over office, said he would rid the community of "Communists" and the flavor of his remarks can be understood when he reverently read Kipling's Recessional! Decent housing, better schools, no segregation, competent officials, no matter which political party--these were brushed aside and continue to be ignored except for the few months preceding an election.

No, I do not happen to have heard of "Man Born to be King." I will try to get hold of it. At present I am struggling to rid myself of the last of my upper teeth and get a store set. Once that is behind me there are lots of things I plan to do. First, I must find another office. The one I have is very expensive, it reeks with cooking from the restaurant downstairs, our landlord is an arbitrary gentleman who won't allow us to put a sign on the door, refuses to supply toilet paper for the bathrooms, decides in his own mind what shall be paid by each tenant for electricity, because he doesn't want to go to the expense of putting in separate meters. It is all very bewildering. But it is funny, too. One of the tenants is a builder of "Happiness Homes" and is himself an amusing person. He has a funny little old man who carpenters and paints and ~~two~~ pounds away to the accompaniment of a portable radio which he carries from room to room. There isn't a soap ~~box~~ opera we miss. And then we have the jute box in the restaurant downstairs, so all in all life is never dull. One more item, the main door doesn't lock on the inside but every once in a while someone locks it from the outside and those inside can't get out until the janitor who lives in another building up the street, comes down to let us out. If one had a ready pen a wonderful story could be written about this set-up and I'll bet the New Yorker would pay good money for it.

Running from one thing to another, if Marnie ever patronizes the public market in Rosemont which is run by the residents of Lancaster County, tell her to get some of the homemade soap which the women sell in some of the booths. It is wonderful for kitchen and bath and so easy on the skin. I don't know what made me think of it at this point. I shall hope to see you soon and I am glad you told me about Marion Jennings--your faith in her made her the fine useful citizen she was.

Love -  
Halau

✓  
Mrs. Joseph Mercer Avann  
703 Washington Ave.  
Washington Court House, Ohio

Jan 4, 1948

Mrs. Robert C. Speer.

Miss Margaret Speer.

Dear Friend and  
Colleague.

The passing  
of your husband and  
father, respectively, from this  
world, for which he gave  
the full measure of his  
wonderful life is difficult  
for all of us to bear.

We can only be thank-  
ful that he lived; that  
he had so much to share;  
that he was so at one with  
the benevolent plan and  
purpose of God. Let this  
nurture, and that he  
was so filled with the

spirit of Christ. that he  
was what he was,  
and that his life was  
so effective.

Our hope for the good  
world we envision  
lies in such as he, and  
we stretch our faith  
that this number may  
increase more rapidly  
than at times seems  
possible as we look  
out over the world.

I am reminded of your  
work for the world and  
thank God for that.

With sympathy for you  
in your great labors, and  
loving thought for you in  
all the days ahead I am  
Sincerely yours,  
Ophelia A. Brown.

Dear Mrs. Speer:

Word was slow  
reaching me as I  
was away and did  
not see the papers.

You had so many  
beautiful years of  
close fellowship the  
lack of it is all the  
more acute.

Dr. Speer wrote me  
such a fine letter  
when Brewer went  
I did hope to see  
him again to draw  
from his faith and  
courage to face life.

My loving sympathy  
to you -  
Josephine Eddy



88 MT. VERNON STREET  
BOSTON 8, MASSACHUSETTS



CAPITOL 7907

18 January 1948

Dear E.B.S. -

How richly you have changed my sense of separation from you into its glorious opposite. I have not yet had the quiet time which should be given to your sharing of the messages prepared for your friends, but must send you this word of gratitude for having them.

Today will be given - after church - to preparations for a little supper here in front of my window. There is in Boston briefly one of the early Chinese women graduates from the P.U.M.C., one of the girls whom we saw go through the eight long years of preparation for medical service, the three premedical years, then four medical years and one of internship. She is now head of the very important Midwifery School in Peking, which has done so much to re-cast the methods used by the usual Chinese attendants at childbirth. And this Ling Hsiao-ying is a satisfaction in personality and character as well as in professional work, for her family is splendidly Christian - North China Anglican in its training - and two of her brothers whom I knew were very fine indeed.

We are having our heaviest snowstorm of the winter - - and that means being deeply buried, but it is not at all impossible to get about on one's feet and by some public transportation. Cars should not be taken out, for there is no place to leave them without impeding essential traffic.

Love constantly -  
Eva

December 8, 1947.

MRS. GEORGE H. HUNTINGTON  
WARM SPRINGS, GEORGIA

Dearest Mrs. Speer,

My heart goes out to you in loving, deepest sympathy; but I know what a host of golden memories you must have of your wonderful husband, & how surely he will always be close to you in spirit. What a joy & privilege has been yours to share his life of highest Christian service, & to do so much to help him in it. The world is far better for his long life, always giving himself for others in the name of Christ.

I can enthusiastically say for myself, as I'm sure thou-  
sands of others can say, that  
both you & he have been a

great inspiration & help to me.

It was always a great experience hearing him speak at conferences & reading his books. I remember once having the thrill of introducing him when he spoke at a big Y. Y. C. meeting. He was a real prophet of Christ for our generation & I hope his books continue to be read by younger generations too, even those you cannot hear him.

It has also been a joy to be with you in the great National Board work, as you have been an inspiring leader. I wish I could see you more often.

With deepest love & sympathy & praying that Christ may comfort you richly, I am

Affectionately yours,  
Elizabeth D. Huntington



✓  
185 EAST PALISADE AVENUE  
ENGLEWOOD, N. J.

January 2<sup>nd</sup> 1948-

Dear Emma Speer -

I cannot tell you how  
happy I was a few weeks ago to  
receive your loving message to me  
from R.B. He was a grand soul  
and there was none of my friends  
I esteemed and cherished more than  
him. I'll never miss the sense of his  
friendship and affection from  
me during my life.

I was glad to see you looking  
so well and so full of happy

Courtesy. You too are one whose  
friendship I prize highly. If  
it happens that you sometime  
soon pass through or near  
Rye Wood woud you stay here  
long enough to let your old  
time friends see you again  
and you yourself see and  
worship in that lovely church  
where you and PD's worshipped  
many years and where your  
children had their early  
associations with church  
life. Our building is ever there

longer than before — I know  
you will rejoice to see it again

My warmest best wishes  
to all of the Speer family and  
to you my love, dear old friend.

Affectionately

Fred

Mrs Robert E Speer

825 Montgomery Ave

Bryn Mawr

Pennsylvania

Tom A. B. Gould  
(Carrie Newton)

Wilsonville, Ala.

Jan. 9, 1948.

My dear Mrs. Spur,

I saw in the January "Out Reach" the news of your beloved Dr. Spur's Homecoming.

I just want to tell you of the love and high regard we felt for him. Of course you will hear it again & again. But we should like to add our word.

His letters, his visits to the Punjab - how they cheered and encouraged us! And how his addressis, and his consecration inspired us!

I was in charge of the M.E. Pratt School <sup>(Gumbala)</sup> during one of his

visits and I can see him  
there still and remember the  
fellowship we had as a station  
with him. His rare humor  
kept us laughing, as he re-  
counted some of his India  
experiences.

I remember so well a delight-  
ful day at your house, when  
I went out as a new Missings.  
I was then Carrie Newton. But  
I married Cyrus Gould, after my  
cousin's death. So am now  
Carrie Newton Gould.

My husband joins in sending  
his deep sympathy to you in  
your loss. We feel that another  
dear friend has joined the circle  
above, and we are looking for-  
ward to seeing him again there.  
With all good wishes,  
Very sincerely Yours, Carrie N. Gould.

3 January 1948

Dear Mrs. Speer,

I was grateful for your letter and to know that you are going to stay in Bryn Mawr for the next few months. When the spring comes you will go back to your hills and somehow to me that is as it should be. You know me pretty well so it may seem strange to you that I find certain quotations which I absorbed somewhere along the way, perhaps unconsciously, coming to my mind again and again. There is something about hills and mountains that does something to me. I never come out of the apartment in the morning and see the hills across the valley that I don't say to myself, I will lift up my eyes to the hills from whence cometh my strength. The quotation may not be right but the thought is. I always feel sorry for those who must spend their lives in flat country.

This winter reminds me so often of the first winter I was with you. Do you remember how we were buried in snow for weeks, how old Mr. Vedus dug up an old sleigh which Billie called the low necked hack, or some such amusing name? And how Mr. Vedus asked you not to forget his boys with their taxicab once the wheels could go around again? And then good old Harry took over for you when the snow finally melted and proved a faithful friend always. He has done well for himself and his family and is still the same dependable friend.

I keep busy, I like my job and I try not to get too discouraged with what's

going on in the world today. I suppose the best thing to do is to try to keep a perspective and not get bogged down in the present. I think what interests me most is trying to break down prejudice between other races and creeds. Perhaps that is the reason I enjoy my job so much, there is a chance to get to know Negroes and Jewish people and to work with them.

When you do go back to your hills I hope you will let me come for a little visit because I would so love to have a chance to sit down and talk with you. It is just possible I may get over to Wayne before the winter is over and if I do I shall look forward to seeing you in Bryn Mawr. And I am grateful, too, for the opportunity to have been at the chapel that day. It was all just as I knew Mr. Speer would have wanted to have it, and you and the children.

I do hope to see you soon.

Love,

Helene A. S.



## Poughkeepsie Reformed Church

HOOKER AND HANSCOM AVENUES  
POUGHKEEPSIE, N. Y.

REV. FRANKLIN J. HINKAMP  
MINISTER  
4 DWIGHT STREET  
TEL. 5260

My dear Dr. Speer:

We were very happy for your note; but deeply regret the slowness of your recovery. We will eagerly await word of your complete recovery, as you respond to hospital attention.

Mrs Hinkamp and I rejoice in the fine book Mrs Speer sent, especially that by it we may have your lives so vividly recalled to us, when our eyes fall upon the book.



I can understand, although we did not expect, your reason for sending back your check for \$50<sup>00</sup>. I trust I may use it for a further effort to reawaken interest in Bible study.

Our prayers follow you both that your health may continue you in His Service which you so richly grace.

Very sincerely,

Franklin J. Hinkamp

✓  
Salisbury -

Dear Mrs Spher -

You are in my mind  
and heart constantly these  
days. I know that you are glad  
that Dr. Spher went ahead of you  
for a little while - Our men are  
so dependent on us, that it is bitter  
so. What a rich life you had  
together -

My love to you always -

Mary Martine Moore

✓  
609 FIFTH AVENUE  
NEW YORK

Red.

Dear Mrs. Spear:

It was a shock to  
learn of Dr. Spear's death.  
I met him about this  
time a year ago. I saw  
him at the dinner for  
a while. He seemed  
well & so much stronger  
than dear old Dr. Mott.

Please accept my  
most sincere sym-

1870  
The following is a list of the  
names of the persons who  
were present at the  
meeting of the  
Board of Directors  
of the  
Company held on  
the 15th day of  
January 1870.

John A. [unclear]  
[unclear] [unclear]  
[unclear] [unclear]  
[unclear] [unclear]

Witness my hand and seal  
this 15th day of January 1870.

[Signature]  
[Title]

9/10/42



GREYSTON  
RIVERDALE-ON-HUDSON  
NEW YORK

Dearest Mrs. Eber.

When one whom we  
love so dearly is taken I feel  
for us a door through which  
we catch a glimpse of heaven  
beyond. It gives us assurance  
that God & Jesus are there

writing & that love & spirit  
are eternal. What rejoicing  
there must be in heaven to  
receive such a one as  
Dr. Z. & we may be sure  
he was greeted by the words  
"well done, thou good & faithful  
servant". If there were only

may we like him but  
a wonderful world this would  
be but alas, there are far too  
few. You & he have been an  
infinite to millions thousands  
who rise up & all you blessed.  
After these years of such love  
& perfect companionship there  
will be no empty, no sufficient  
him but it brings heaven  
never & I have done close  
God will be to your satisfaction.  
I can't say all that is in my  
heart for you dear Mrs. Spar,  
but you are in my thoughts &  
prayers & love & I and you  
are deepest sympathy.

With all my love & prayers that  
God will bless & help you & give  
you strength, devotedly.

Polly.

December 2<sup>nd</sup> - '47.

PLAS NEWYDD  
LEWIS RIVER  
RIDGEFIELD, WASHINGTON

Dear Emma, -

"And all the Trumpets sounded for him on the other side". The old words are so beautifully true for Rob. Ever since I heard that you had seen him pass into the larger life I have been thinking of his pipe here - How many he saved supported and strengthened! His being alive was a help to the rest of us



The very thought of him  
brought strength.

I don't need to tell you  
where to go for comfort but  
I hope besides the support  
of the Spirit - your heart  
will find balm in the memory  
of the beautiful years that you  
had together. When Dwight  
went so suddenly I was  
comforted constantly by the  
thought that I had had him.  
To have missed life together  
- that would have been tragedy.  
There are so few people who  
are truly married - I feel as

I grow older. You and your Rob had  
that supreme experience. May the thought of  
it strengthen you - dear - dear Emma!  
Maud has written me of the beautiful service.  
I am so sorry to have missed it - but I am  
far away - trying to help my Constance in her  
busy life as a farmer's wife. She is so capable  
and courageous that really I am the one who is  
being helped -  
With many loving thoughts for you and the  
children -  
Devotedly Yours,  
Betty.

✓ Swainsville, So. Carolina  
December 5.

Dear Colonel Fiske

I just had a letter from  
Mrs. Coffin. Talking as that you  
love your to spend the winter  
with her. I am a great fan  
of the lake and it is nice  
to you to be with her & her  
to Fall. I am so glad that  
can see. She is such a nice  
You have been so recently in  
my mind & prayers, & I think  
back for you & your family  
I wish you could see the  
your type of place. It is really  
different from the common  
country. The hills in the  
glade! When we have found  
winter streets, a great pine  
tree & the snow in ground  
now. At first, I thought it  
to be a lake, but now I can  
see its strange beauty.  
The mountains are lovely too.

When I write to you I find  
pleasure in knowing I have  
written to you. If I could write  
to you I would have nearly every day.  
Let the Lord's love be  
with you, and to the world.  
I do so much I can see you  
today. I do for you to  
write to I wish I could do  
something for you and love  
you. I give you courage. The  
Lord's love be with you  
and always give you  
love and light.

Yours truly,  
John

John

2889 San Pasqual St.  
Pasadena 10, Cal.

November 25, 1947

Dear Mrs. Spear:

This morning's Los Angeles paper tells us that Dr. Spear has gone to his great trypt with his beloved Master.

My heart goes out to you in your sorrow of this parting from him even for a short time after all the beautiful years you have had together.

You have both been so faithful to all who have needed you and your home has been so lovely and shared

so generously that I know you will soon be together again for even more glorious service and sharing

All expressions of gratitude are inadequate as frequent thoughts come of all you have done for and meant to me. No one ever had a kinder brother and sister than you two have been to me so I too have a share in the feeling of loss for a while which must be so very poignant to you and your family now.

That love is felt very  
widely. Dr. Spurr's great  
service and influence  
will go on beyond  
anything we can  
measure — a source  
of joy and satisfaction  
to you — a very richly  
beautiful life.

I love you dearly  
and rejoice in the  
humble offering I  
can give in daily  
prayer for you and  
yours which is a  
small, loving response  
that has continued in  
gratitude since first

you were no good to  
me in time of need.

May our Master be  
very near to you and  
comfort and keep you,  
with all your loved  
ones yet on this side,  
and may you feel  
your dear ones in  
heaven are also  
very near.

Yours in love,  
Isabella M. Thurman



MRS. CHARLES BAILEY  
2529 NORTH SECOND STREET  
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

Dear Emma

All our sympathy goes to you and the children in your great loss. When you wrote to me this summer, telling how Rob was Carpenter, upholsterer, writing at the same time, I was so happy for you for that tranquil time. I think of it now. I would have written to you before, dear Emma, but I have not been well.

With love  
Ray

Admitted?

517 Market St.  
St. Louis, Illinois  
Nov. 30<sup>th</sup> '47.

Dear Mrs. Speer:

The news of your beloved husband's illness saddened us, and we tried to show our affection. Soon after I came out here to help in our son's home for a few weeks, because of the arrival of a new little soul in their midst.

My husband's last letter informed me that

Dr. Speer has gone to receive his crown of glory and the "well done," which he so decidedly deserves. We are sorry for the loneliness that will

be yours, and for ourselves  
that we may never see or  
hear him again on this earth  
- but rejoice, at his new life  
and the gladness of the  
throng whom he has  
joined:

Dr. Speer was used of  
our Heavenly Father to  
definitely influence my  
life. The first time I  
heard him speak was over  
forty years ago, when I  
was a student at Leland  
Stanford. I remember still  
what touched me then. His  
voice, his words were  
a benediction each time  
I heard or met him.

One time was most  
outstanding. We were on  
furlough studying at  
Hartford Foundation. I was

finding it very hard to see  
returning to the field and  
leaving our children in this  
country. Dr. Spear came to  
Hartford to preach in one  
of the churches. We went to  
hear him and his message  
that day seemed to be  
just for me. I felt definitely  
that he had been sent  
there and guided in his  
sermon. It made such  
a difference in me, that I  
could go, though not easy,  
I did not hesitate any more.

The last time I had the  
pleasure of seeing and  
hearing him was a year  
ago when he led a retreat  
for the Board staff at  
Kennedy House. I enjoyed  
helping serve his lunch  
as Martha served, and  
in the afternoon we Marthas

were invited to be Mary's  
as dear Dr. Speer led me,  
all to sit at the feet of  
Jesus:

My heart is full of praise  
and thanksgiving. To have  
had the privilege of  
knowing such a saint  
and being recognized  
by him. May we  
be strengthened to follow  
in his train.

Our very deep sympathy  
is with you and yours.

— Most sincerely

Bessie Stone Abbott.

Mrs. Paul B.

(Amia.)

"106" Nov

5125  
DR. JAMES A. KELSO  
515 SOUTH AIKEN AVE  
PITTSBURGH 6, PA

November 26, 1947

My dear Mrs. Spier:

Our hearts were saddened yesterday as we read the notice of the death of your husband, one of the most intelligent and devoted Christiane leaders of his generation. We here join me with you in our sympathy with you in your bereavement.

I first saw and heard Dr. Spier in my 30th or 31st year, at that time he had just returned from his first itinerary. He made a profound impression on me and the entire student body, an impression that was permanent.

When later I visited the

DR. JAMES A. KELSO  
515 SOUTH AIKEN AVE.  
PITTSBURGH 6, PA.

Memorials and became head  
of the Federal receivers &  
I hope, at the same time, in  
my own mind, of the church  
and in the future, I hope, I shall  
confer by, learned to one him  
as well as to admire his rare  
qualities of mind and heart.

Your husband was one of  
the most devoted leaders of the  
Presbyterian Church, and I am  
deeply grieved to be one of the  
most intimate friends of the  
Ecumenical Church.

"A plague has been in Israel this day"  
and we shall not soon see his like  
again. May the universal mourning  
over his departure be a source of  
consolation to you.

May the Lord bless and keep you,  
Very sincerely yours  
James A. Kelso

✓  
MRS. DOUGLAS P. BIRNIE  
1025 CONNECTICUT AVE.  
WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

29 Nov.

Dear Mrs. Spier -

Your much loved, much  
honored, most inspiring husband  
has passed beyond your sight,  
and I write to express my  
sincere sympathy for you  
and his children. (H.C.P.)  
I know the loneliness of waiting  
for the familiar voice calling  
my name, the touch of a



familiar fond hand and the  
'silence when I would have  
asked advice.' God comfort  
you! It helped me to think  
that my ~~error~~ saved him  
from ever knowing such  
illnesses - the price is to  
a life of memories only -

Your friend

Lucia K. M. Birnie

The Living Room,  
Dec. 4<sup>th</sup> '47

✓  
Dearest Emma,

You and Robert were so kind to come when Ross went. Then you invited me to come to spend Thanksgiving with you! I do not remember why I could not go but I have never forgotten all your tender sympathy.

And now that you are called upon to go through the same experience of separation, of revelation of our Lord's power to comfort and bless even as He promised, I long to express my love. For all your friendship thro' all the years I thank you. And I do want you to know how genuinely I appreciate all that you both have meant to me thro' all these precious, precious years.

Yours with ever increasing affection  
and loving, tender wishes

Florence

Lakeville, Connecticut  
November 26, 1947

Dear Mrs. Speer:

Please accept my deepest sympathy at this time. We are remembering you in our prayers, and know that your Christian faith will give you courage. Truly, Dr. Speer was a great man. Our community will feel his loss, as will the other many communities who have been privileged to know him. His influence lives on as an added blessing for all of us.

I know you will wish to hear

the standing of the Unseen Great Fund. I am going to the bank this afternoon, and at Mr. Bellini's suggestion, will endorse all checks now on hand. The bank will set aside all gifts, as cash, until Friday, at which time I plan to conclude the totaling of the funds. However, I think it best to wait until Monday before receiving the bank check which I will send along to the Friends' Service Committee.

A concluding article will go to the Journal for next week.

Surely the project has been

an inspiration for true thanksgiving  
to many. We are indebted to you  
for the leadership you have given  
us.

May God's blessing be with you.

Sincerely,

Arlaide J. Fitts.

207



400 Church - Lane  
Scranton Pa.

My dear - Mrs Spier -

I know that from all over -  
the world - hearts are turning to  
you - in sympathy - But so closely  
mingled with it - is that wonder-  
ful - feeling of "up lift" - that one  
had - the privilege of touching  
a life like that of Mrs Spier -

I shall never forget the  
pleasure of working with you -

your home and - I treasure the  
happy memories of Dr. Speer's  
kindness and graciousness -  
I remember especially his taking  
me to see his attractive retreat  
in the lake -

This year - I am with the  
German Legion of W. C. A.

I just want you to know  
that I am thinking of you - with  
love - How glorious to have  
had the companionship - and  
love of Dr. Speer!

With every good wish for  
you -

Always affectionately  
Edith - Lee

Nov. 26, 1947

233 EDWARDS STREET  
NEW HAVEN  
CONNECTICUT

Dear Mrs. Spear -

It was only last Saturday afternoon that Charlie Kibbey came to see us.

After he came down stairs from my husband's room he told me of his recent call upon you and Dr. Spear in Lakesville and of your decision to go to Blyn Mawr.

Having such direct and recent word of you



broughts you very near just at this time and all the more so perhaps because we were both living through the sad days of caring for our invalid husbands.

Mr. Brown has been ill for a year and a half with a heart difficulty.

Restricted lives for two men who have been so active in helping to bring about a better world is a sad and trying experience for them and heart breaking for those who love them as we do.

For your husband, life has begun anew. While we rejoice for him I can well understand the loneliness that fills your heart.

May He who has us all in His keeping be very near to you these days. Believe me with deep sympathy

Affectionately yours Alice Inger Brown

November twenty eighth.

(Mrs. Charles R.)



✓  
1266 Fourth Ave.  
Salt Lake City 3  
Utah

Dec. 7

Mr. Philip B. Price

Dear Mrs. Spur,

Just last night I read in the  
Presbyterian Outlook of Mr. Spur's  
death. As I look back on my  
younger days, I realize more & more  
how much you & Mr. Spur influenced  
my ideals, my ambitions & my  
missionary call. Your home too  
influenced my home. I thank you  
over & over again for this & I want  
you to know how deep a sense of  
loss I feel at Mr. Spur's going.  
We cannot be sad for he is at  
rest with his Heavenly Father. But  
I know how lonely & lost you  
feel without him, who was your  
constant companion & comfort. So  
cheerful & thoughtful too, as we saw  
him in Lakeville two summers ago.

May God bless + comfort you.

Lovingly always

Taire

295 ~~Smalley Ave~~ Bellevue, Pa.

Dec. 11<sup>th</sup>, 1947,

Dear Mrs. Spear,

I was so sorry to hear of your husband's death. He was a good friend of my father's, especially while he was a missionary in Mexico. I think you were both at our home in Saltillo, when I was quite small. Do you remember it?

I always heard such nice things about your husband, and, since living in Pittsburgh, I've known what a great man he was. That must be a great

comfort to you. How proud  
you must have been of  
him! His death is a loss  
not only to you, but to the  
whole church. Please accept  
my sincere sympathy.

Carmen Boyce Caldwell

72 DEERING STREET  
PORTLAND, MAINE

✓  
Dearest Cecelia -  
I know you have heard  
from all your old  
friends - in sympathy -  
the sum of them all -  
You & I have more close -  
than we used to fly your  
loves together it  
will very dear dear  
child - I love you so  
deeply for you - but you  
& your husband were  
walking all your married  
life so close to the Lord,  
almost at the very

gates of Heaven! that  
his being is before you  
just for a while - & the  
same thing & joy of  
meeting! "Who God shall  
live may all live" &  
never more & just again -  
I don't know your  
former address - I like  
just to write the last  
such a long letter from  
you, & finally I sent me  
your former address - I  
- cannot bear very well in  
the return - & I hope to  
go back to town -

I am being a hard  
time with my eyes -



Something of a Col. rail -  
yet can read & sew - & they  
do no operations - only all  
their reading is a little  
flurred -

I treat her form for  
such a long time -

This is just a word - will all  
ally love - What a blessing &  
Ermyth - your children  
must be of you -

See her form for  
some time -

Yours truly & devotedly

Carra - D. Cassidell

January Seventh 1982

FLORENCE M. SCOVILL  
GOULD FARM  
GREAT BARRINGTON  
MASSACHUSETTS

January 10, 1948

Dear Mrs. Speer,

You have been in our thoughts so constantly these last weeks. When your letter to Florence came she read it first to herself, then she brought it down stairs and we read it together. And we marveled at it. Your loss had seemed so overwhelming and yet you weren't overwhelmed.

When the new year came I thought, "Since Mrs. Speer is what she is this year may bring her its own joy."

As you know, Florence has been quite ill. She is at last getting better and thinks that tomorrow morning she may come down and have breakfast by the fire. She was so troubled to have changed Miss Sheaman's plans but if the illness had to come one can only be thankful that it came here instead of on the journey south.

This letter needs no answer -- the answer came before this  
was written in your beautiful note to Florence.

Affectionately yours

Priscilla Sewell

HOTEL WEYLIN

Madison Avenue

Fifty-fourth Street

New York 22, N. Y.

imitation & etc  
Wednesday

Dearest Mr. Speer:-

It was good  
to be with you in that beauti-  
ful service yesterday in the  
quiet little chapel in  
Englewood. My love is con-  
stantly surrounding you as  
we learn to realize he has  
gone on ahead a little, and  
has entered into the abundant  
life in the heavenly home.

I am sure you know what  
he has meant in the lives of

of Ann, Bill, and me. We love  
him.

In Jim John's children  
came to know their father  
master letter.

I rejoiced when I learned  
Patty was flying to you.  
Please give her my love.

Remember you have an  
Atlanta home that is eager  
to welcome you if you  
and Patty should feel you  
could dip away for some  
southern sunshine in a

very quiet spot.

Ann, Bill, and I send love  
and our deep gratitude for him.

Yours devotedly,

Susan Young Eagan

Box #54, Stroudsburg. Nov. 25<sup>th</sup> 1911  
Penna.

Dear Mrs. Speer

It was with much distress  
that we learned of Dr. Speer's  
passing and we wish here to  
express to you our profound  
sympathy with your great loss!

There have been many  
moments since our departure  
from Connecticut - when dear  
Mrs. Annie gave me a little  
prayer-book written by Dr.  
Speer - that we have recalled  
both Dr. Speer's and your kind  
personalities. Thus the wonderful  
and sincere spirit as enclosed  
in this little book has been  
our constant companion ever  
since.

Sincerely yours  
Annie - & Frank and family.

940 Washington Street  
San Francisco 8, Calif.  
Nov. 14, 1947.

Dearest Mrs. Speer,-

Your letter mailed in Lakeville at 3PM the 12th, reached me at 10 o'clock this morning. It seems almost incredible. You and I are accustomed to typewritten letters and one gets over the ground so much faster.

I am distressed to learn that Dr. Speer is not so well. It is so difficult to hold a man down. Then one thinks of the severe operation he had just two years ago and all the traveling and speaking he has done since, besides many other things to take his strength, one wonders however he has stood up under it all. I told Miss Sheerman when I was with you that to me he did not look quite as robust as he did when I was there last year. Now the men folks hate to give in to the fact that they cannot do at 80 all the things they did at 50. I shall keep you both in constant prayer before the Father of Love who is the giver of all good things, and through the guidance of a fine doctor, will renew his strength.

It would seem to be such a wise plan to spend the winter with Margaret in Bryn Mawr and the Father will guide in all those plans too. How I wish I could be near and help you out. You know how I would love to were it possible. I want to send you some of the green avacodos and had word yesterday that they were ready to be sent. If you go to Margaret's soon it would be nice to send them there and the whole family there could enjoy them. Please let me know when you think of going and I will do just that.

My peach jam still holds out, but is



going too fast to suit me, it is so yummy good!

Yesterday I spent in Petaluma and had a very  
visit with Bill and he seemed brighter than usual.  
Mrs. Miller sent me home with three dozen fresh  
eggs and another friend gave me a quart jar of min-  
nut meats, she had cracked for me, and also a large  
bunch of red berries from a lovely shrub that she  
has. The sprays of the berries are so pretty and  
brighten up the living room.

Did I write you that my English woolen suit  
had come from Canada? It is a perfect fit and I feel  
very correctly dressed in it. I'm so glad that I  
got it.

I'm sure your son will be guided in this  
new offer that has come to him and I will keep  
him in mind in my prayer time too. It is such a  
wonderful experience to bring all to God and then  
leave it with Him and give it no further worry, tho'  
the latter is what I find most difficult to do. I  
seem to want to pick it up and go over it again,  
which is so wrong. I need much discipline along  
that line. Frank Labauch's book is such a help,  
and the flash prayers that we can send up to the  
Father anytime and in any place and under any  
circumstances can do so much for us as well as for  
others. I pray for your dear husband and for you  
too that you will both be sustained in this time  
anxiety.

Life goes on busily here. I have been on the  
telephone most of the morning. The days are bright  
and sunny, but much cooler mornings and evenings  
and the furnace feels very good to take the chill  
off, but so far we have it on only about three  
hours in the morning and evening.

Blessings on you, my very precious friend  
and I leave you and your dear one in His care.

Dear love always,  
*Helen*

Thanks for the looking out and  
my first looking out, my dog  
about six years ago - how I  
first noticed - wasn't feeling  
anything was a sensation.  
They have improved much  
since then.

Wind is a Paroxysm. When I am  
ready to get under the wheel  
but not general as I did in  
New York when I got my  
license then.

The Paroxysm is such a  
quiet instrument, no static  
or instrument noise that  
some have.

110

110

Dear Mrs. Sperr -

It is impossible  
to express to you how deeply I feel  
for you in your great loss.

When I heard of Dr. Sperr's going  
it was such a shock to feel that  
so vital a person as he was no  
longer living but a second thought

brought a sense that he is more  
alive than ever in the world  
where his thoughts and heart  
dwelt for so long - just a fuller  
part of eternal life.

Love the less my sympathy  
goes to you in your loneliness,  
deprived of your life's companion.

From the time I heard your  
husband in Bible teaching  
at a student Y.M.C.A. conference, or  
preaching at First Church, N.Y.  
last summer he was ever standing  
at the very top of spiritual leadership  
for us. It has always meant resolu-  
tion, new courage and a renewed  
resolve - try to live a better life,  
following where he was leading.

And I'll always remember being  
tea with you in Lakerville when  
you and Dr. Gray were down alone  
it was one of those moments one  
remembers -

With deep sympathy to you  
and great appreciation of your  
wonderful husband.

Sincerely yours.

Emma Marie Ogg

145 Hicks Street

Brooklyn 2, N.Y.

November twenty-sixth

✓  
424 Saint Ronan St.  
New Haven, Conn.  
Jan. 27-1948-

My dear Emma-

It grieves me when I picked up the morning paper and read the obituary notice of your beloved and distinguished husband, knowing what a loss to you his going means. Your long, beautiful companionship together; your mutual interest in all the many affairs pertaining to his profession - for like Mr. Andrews, Dr. Speer was never allowed to retire - to be

deprived of these blessed gifts  
just as one is growing older is  
hard indeed, and loses all one  
has of character and strength.

I have read beautiful tributes  
to Dr. Steer, and his especially  
that which appears recently  
in the Federal Church Bulletin.  
He will be greatly missed both  
professionally and by his many  
friends who need his wisdom  
and strength in this crisis of  
world affairs.

My dear love to you, Emma  
dear. I am thinking of you,  
wondering I could be of some  
service to you, and hoping

that we may meet in the near future.  
It was a great pleasure to have a letter  
from you at the B. M. meeting here. If you are  
coming this way at any time please telephone  
me and come to lunch or tea with me.  
If the weather improves sufficiently I  
want to drive to Lakeville to see you.

With all good wishes to the children,  
Faithfully and affectionately yours,  
Evangeline W. Andrews



that we may meet in the near future.  
It was a great pleasure to have a letter  
from you at 1<sup>st</sup> B. M. meeting here. If you are  
coming this way at any time please telephone  
me and come to lunch or tea with me.  
If the weather improves sufficiently I  
want to drive to Lakeville to see you.

With all good wishes to the children,  
Faithfully and affectionately yours,  
Evangeline W. Andrews

1947  
✓  
Miriam Osborn  
Memorial Home,  
Harrison, N. Y.  
November 25, 1947

Dear Mrs. Speer:

Please accept my sincere sympathy in the departure for the "Near Hereafter" of your wonderful husband.

You perhaps will not remember me. I was a stenographer in the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions, and was one of the four employees whom you entertained so

kindly and delightfully when  
we were retired in 1935;  
but I shall never forget your  
sweet hospitality.

Cordially yours,

Estella M. Rutherford.

237 Montgomery Pike,  
Haverford, Pa.



Dear Mrs. Speer,

May I presume to extend to you  
my sincere sympathy for your great  
loss.

As a former Dobbs girl, Dr.  
Speer meant everything to us. An  
inspiration — not only through  
school days but one which I have  
carried through life; not alone  
Dobbs but also Northfield.

Dr. Speer's going leaves a great  
void to all of us. Particularly these  
days, when, men of his caliber and

understanding are needed for the stress  
and times of the world to-day.

Sincerely,

Wanda Conway Tetter Bent.

CENTURY CLUB  
7 WEST FORTY-THIRD STREET  
NEW YORK

Dear Emma -

Mr. Waldenbauer  
was very sympathetic  
with your letter and  
attitude. He assured  
me to call Selby  
who is Chairman of  
the committee working  
up the details.

He also observed  
the difficulty there  
would be in obtaining  
the warrants there

would be sure to see  
in referring to a  
word of promise of  
with a mouth of  
god.

We will bring  
very full hearts. They  
will tell us far more  
than any words based  
friends will try to  
express.

Love to you  
John

Dec 12/41



Thanksgiving Day.

Charles W. Huber  
99 EAST LINDEN AVENUE  
ENGLEWOOD, NEW JERSEY

Dear, dear Emma:

How I love  
you & long to help you.  
But you need no help  
with your splendid  
courage & the fortitude  
which you & Bob have  
given to all of us in  
time of trouble. Remember



That Carl Elmore told  
me that when his  
father died, a friend  
wrote to him saying  
"His life was your  
consolation" It always  
will be for you; dear  
Samma, for every one  
whose life has touched

yours & Bob's life has been  
surely blessed.

About half past five on Tuesday,  
I drove my sister Mabel off to  
Brookside. She is not well  
enough to go to a service but  
she wanted so much to go  
to pay honor to Bob. The beautiful

Chrysanthemums were  
shining in the sun set  
glow & I felt - we both  
did - that Bob & Elliott  
& little Eleanor were  
indeed in peace.

Now Patty is with you &  
my special love goes out  
to her -

Please do not answer this  
for I know the tyranny of  
letters but I just had to  
tell you how much I love you  
affectionately Maud K. H

1526 West 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Bradenton, Florida.

Nov. 25 -

Emma Dear -

There is no word for  
what I want to say but  
then, you have never needed  
words, since first I knew  
you. I have been thinking  
so much of those early days  
since seeing the Dwight  
Junior School in your  
old home the other day.  
All that happy childhood  
now after wave of it flowing  
through, seemed such a

right fulfilment of the spirit I remembered. All through  
our friendship, you and Rob have meant to me fulfil-  
ments and beginnings - old ways enriched, new ways  
opened. When you said "As we forgive," that day in  
Brookside, I felt as if I were really hearing it for the  
first time. So now, as you and Rob and the children  
are one in my love and prayer as you have always  
been, "Neither death nor life - I" has new meaning.  
Carl and I hold you in our heart and our prayers,  
all of you.

Your friend  
Linn

inteam 409 Prospect St.,  
Newtown N. Conn



TELEPHONE  
WHITEHALL 3160 (6 LINES)  
TELEGRAMS 'AZYRITES, LONDON'

AUTHORS' CLUB,

2, WHITEHALL COURT,

S.W.1.

Dec 3, 1947

Dear Mrs. Spear;

Only this  
morning did I hear of the  
passing of your dear husband.  
What a glorious way to go on  
to the next stage of eternal life!  
I, full tide, after more than  
eighty years so crowned  
with fruitful service, and  
while on an errand for the  
proclamation of the Gospel.

So can my & Professor's  
problems to God in him and  
with no more of sadness, my  
of triumph in him - that he  
is now in love with intimate  
life with Christ, who so manifestly  
dwelt in him, and whom he  
so long <sup>and so vividly</sup> wished to reveal to  
others.

It is that God's constant and  
strength will be yours in the  
loneliness which even the most  
radical faith cannot fully  
obscure.

Faithfully Yours  
Kenneth G. Catawella



Richard P. Johnson

Wm. H. Wood



✓  
103 Douglas Place  
Mount Vernon, N.Y.

November 29, 1947

Dear Mrs. Speer:

I want you to know now  
of my thoughts of you and  
your family at this time of  
change.

When I heard of Dr. Speer's  
passing I felt that I had  
lost a friend. My years  
of working with him  
bring to me thoughts  
of his wonderful service  
to many people. I think

of him always with warm  
appreciation of his kindness,  
and I know how much  
you will miss his help  
and counsel, but I  
somehow feel that  
memories give us comfort.

May God bless  
and keep you in  
the days ahead.

Sincerely,

Susan C. Bidwell.

Miss Ruth Elliott

(1) Dec. 2, 1921  
Dec. 2  
Dear Mrs. Speer,

This is just one more testimony to the life of Dr. Speer and what he meant in my life. I remember when my father brot home a book "Remember Jesus Christ"; at that time, it was the name "Robert Elliott" which attracted my father for that was his name. Later when I went to college, Dr. Speer became more of a personality <sup>to me</sup> and then from 1921 on it was my privilege to be with the Foreign Board in one capacity or another.

There are hosts to rise up  
and call him blessed. His  
entrance into the Fuller life  
must indeed have been  
one of triumph.

My thoughts are with you  
and the family.

Sincerely yours,

Ruth Elliott

MMS

Dear Mrs Speer .

We have just heard  
of your tragic loss of  
your husband, and  
both Charley and I

wanted you to know  
you are in our thoughts  
and to send our  
deepest sympathy to  
you and your  
family.

Dr. Speer's death is  
a real loss to everyone  
who knew him — we  
can ill spare such  
a man in times like  
these. I know my  
father valued his  
friendships highly — it  
doesn't seem right that  
those who are seen as a  
help to others should  
go.

I do wish there  
were something I  
might do that  
would be to keep

Most sincerely,

Peggy Anne Stone

Lakewood

November 28<sup>th</sup>



Nov. 30 -



778 PARK AVENUE

Dear Mrs. Speer -

Soon after reading  
your lovely tribute  
which you & Mr. Speer  
wrote for the book  
presented to me by  
Russell Sheppard at  
the Berry dinner,  
I saw in the paper  
that your husband

had passed on.

I want to send you  
my tender & loving  
sympathy. I remember  
so well when you  
both went to Beery  
with us in 1931 &  
what a privilege it  
was to get to know  
you better. The  
world is certainly  
the richer for your  
husband's beautiful

life + many will give  
to call him blessed.  
He lived close to the  
Master whom he  
served so faithfully  
these many years.

I hope you will find  
some comfort in these  
thoughts which I  
compiled at the  
time of my sister's  
passing. They  
take you much love

+ sympathy from  
your affectionate friend

Truly Yrs. Hammond

True Emma - I would  
that I could write  
you such a letter  
as Rob. wrote me  
six<sup>teen</sup> months ago,  
but it is impossible.  
But I can say that  
no one knows better  
than I do, the abso-  
lute ache that  
she has of a devoted

missed leaves  
to the one who has  
to stay behind ! I

Send son my

love & understanding

Edw. Palmer

roughly

Edw. Palmer Toole

Dr. Helen Toole

England

Dec. 3-47

✓  
Dear Mrs. Speer

May I send to  
you and Margaret  
and the other  
members of your  
family, my

thoughts of gratitude  
for having lived  
at a time when  
Dr. Speer was giving

To the world, his  
great gifts of his  
spirit - So many  
many people will  
feel his going and  
miss him, but oh!  
how deep will be  
their appreciation  
of his truly  
Christian character.



I am grateful for  
the many times I  
have heard him  
from the platform  
knowing always  
that he said what  
he believed and spoke.

In your loneliness  
you will surely find  
joy in the knowledge  
of the jay and com-

art and inspiration  
Dr. Spelle gave to  
people all over the  
world.

Lowmingle,  
Marguerite Lee Trebbie

North St  
Greenwich, Conn.  
December 2, 1947

112 W. Green Lane  
Chestnut Hill  
Phila. Pa.

Dec. 1-47

Dear Mr. Speer:

It was a great  
shock to me to read  
in the paper the news  
about Dr. Speer, & I want  
to send you my love  
& the deepest sympathy.

You need not words  
of mine to comfort  
you, but because of  
Margaret I want to  
say how very greatly

I feel for you.

As you know Margaret held Dr. Spear in the highest esteem, and considered his advice as very valuable.

Also you do not need to hear from me the great service that Dr. Spear performed for the cause of Foreign Missions - others, many others - will say it far better than I - but again I do want to let you know for Margaret's

sake, that I am among the  
multitude that Bruce Yand  
looked up to, + gave thanks  
for him.

I only wish that I could  
say or do something to help  
that loneliness that is bound  
to come to you. I know  
it so well myself, but also  
I know that God will keep  
+ guard + guide you till  
you are both together again  
in His holy keeping + peace.

Very cordially yours  
Nathaniel Hoag

✓  
No 3 107, East 70 Street.

TORREY CLIFF New York.  
PALISADES, ROCKLAND COUNTY  
NEW YORK

My darling Emma.

I was filled  
with sadness when I received  
Margaret's telegram. The  
words of the telegram made  
me feel that you were  
looking at Rob's death as  
the entry to a new life.

That makes all the  
difference, but it does  
not ease the loneliness.  
You have had such a  
wonderful life together,  
& Rob has lived such

a triumphant life. His splendid  
Character & keen mind and  
living faith has helped  
people not only at home, but  
all over the world - I never  
came in contact with him  
without feeling that my own  
faith had struck fresh roots.

I have faced the  
death of my dear Tom so  
many times these last years  
that I can feel the deepest  
sympathy with you. He is  
better now.

I long to see you.  
We are going South the 8<sup>th</sup>  
of January. Shall you

to in New York at all? Do not  
bother to answer.

I think over our long friendships  
& all it has meant for me.

I ~~was~~ want to be so powerless  
to help you, not exactly  
help you, for I know you  
do not need that, but powerless  
to get my love across to

you - Your devoted friend,  
Florence -



November 30<sup>th</sup>

WILLOWMERE  
OLD GREENWICH, CONNECTICUT

Dear Mrs. Spear, -

Just a line to tell you  
that we have been thinking  
of you and hoping that Pat  
wouldn't mind and that  
you are not too tired. Of  
course I don't know, but

I can try to realize how  
hard it is to have the  
beautiful association of  
so many years broken  
and us, are sorrowing  
with you in Mr. Speer's  
sorrow, and wishing, we  
could do something for  
you. We feel a great  
sense of loss ourselves  
for Mr. Kule, loved and  
revered here. At the same  
time we are thankful  
he lived, and thankful for  
his many years of splendid  
work, and that we were

✓ printings to Frank & Karen here.  
✓ Please you want to come &  
see us we are safe to have  
you. We always love to see  
you & love you dearly.

Love lots to you & Marlene  
& Patty & Tim -

Love sincerely,  
Kiley

Please don't think me of anything  
the wots

C. M. W. Beckett -

574 Tradbrooke Ave Winnipeg

Feb 5 - 48 Canada

Dear Mrs Speer -

The longing to write you a few words at this time when your heart is so full of sorrow must be satisfied - I have nothing new to tell you only to repeat how very much I loved you was to me - I loved him so much - and with my whole heart thank God for D. Speer's words and life - In looking back I feel but for him I should

Have missed so much that, we  
wonder winter - and now more  
than ever it seems that we  
who were so helped should  
pray for the world so  
dear to Dr. Spencer's heart  
with sincere love to

You.

Affectionately

Ellen E. Dresser

✓  
Madeline M. Beckmann

247 Dean St.

Brooklyn, N. Y.

January 31, 1928

Dear Mrs. Spear.

Each

month as I prepare the  
Prayer Notice for the

Group, I think of you and  
the Group. At the time of

his "home-going" I was  
seriously contemplating

an operation on my  
feet and that thought

was uppermost in my  
mind. I have now

decided to wait at least

in, matters, & all of  
corrections, & such, & if he goes.

However, I want you to  
know that I admired  
Dr. Spear greatly, and  
miss reading his notice  
each month. His bill  
exercised a very wide  
influence and brought  
the Master, whom he  
served so well, very close.

I am told - remembers,

With best wishes,

Yours, very sincerely,  
Martin Wepelmann



✓  
St John's Rectory  
New Milford, Conn.

Dear Aunt Emma -

I have thought of you  
often since reading in "the Times"  
of your good husband's death.  
He was truly a great Christian,  
and his loss I know will  
be felt by many in all parts  
of this Earth!

I shall always remember  
how the day I lunched with  
you at Lakeville, so busy  
and active in the work he

was done. It hardly seems possible that so much time has passed, over two years!

The children are growing up - Our oldest son graduates from South Kent this spring of all goes well and wants to go to College, but he may be too young.

I want to drive over and see you one of these days when you feel like having visitors.

We had the pleasure of having Florence Stevenson in our home last summer while she was visiting some friends nearby. She was very ill last winter, but has made a

remarkable recovery!

I hope that Mamma is well at  
Chyler, as I am writing her a note  
here.

Please do not answer this note, dear  
Aunt Susan, as I know how many you  
will have from many devoted friends.  
Could you send Patty my love and sympathy  
when you next write to her, as I do not  
happen to have her address? Hoping to see  
you before very long and with gratitude  
for having known your husband & that  
you and Mamma, with love  
Dear Aunt Susan.  
Gene Ayler.

2336 Ash Street  
Denver 7, Colorado

Jan 31<sup>st</sup> 1948

Dear Mrs. Speer,

Illness of several weeks duration prevented me from writing you to express my profound sorrow and deep sympathy for you and the members of your family.

Dr. Speer was not only a perfect husband and father, he was so outstanding in the Church and in world affairs that there is no one fully qualified to take his place.

I do not wish to tire you with words, which are so inadequate, but must say that we are praying that the Lord will sustain you

in this period of great grief.  
This expression of condolence  
is also intended for your  
children.

Our daughter Mrs. Roberts, formerly  
of Lakeville, joins us in love.

Sincerely

Mrs Albert A. Reed



AIKEN 949

Thomas I. Laughlin  
Aiken  
South Carolina

Dear Auntie Emma.

Thank you very  
much for sending me  
Uncle Rob's book. I was  
just delighted to get it -  
and will always treasure it.  
We had a ~~very~~ merry  
holiday with eleven Laughlins  
here in Aiken, but the  
weather was so beautiful the  
children had the most perfect

time ..

I just had a letter from Daddy  
and they seem to be all  
settled in Florida - I do hope  
they have a good winter -  
Thank you again + much  
love -

Weedie.

E. Northfield,  
Mass.

Jan. 20, 48

Dear Mrs. Spear,

I wanted to visit  
and write to you  
unhurriedly. Now,  
I think our ~~message~~  
you wired on Dec. 3, '99  
is fitting. I am  
going over Father's  
papers in the  
bookstore safe;  
hundreds of clippings,  
newswires  
about D. L. M. the  
long-hand  
man notes.  
and I am going



Three notices  
of my books.

Your message read:

"Robert grieved for  
regard this morning  
to attend the death  
of a dear one  
with heavy heart  
for his and the  
common loss."

I feel that the  
of your husband's  
house, going over  
us "a heavy heart  
for our and the  
common loss."

What a beautiful  
of grateful friends  
he had! i.e. —  
I belong to a  
wonderful little

Prayer group led  
by Dr. Ed. Fairbank  
of Judson. His  
stand on - in - law,  
was very high, re-  
sulting in a very  
decision to go out  
to Judson. He had  
confidentially  
Case. It was a  
reference of your  
husband's a  
few days later  
found the sermon  
among father's  
papers, and was  
able to give it to  
her.

Mrs. Paul Monday  
visited us over  
the weekend. He  
is still a grand

tonic! Maxine has  
gone to Aunt Mary's  
for a few days.  
Bad news continues,  
to come to poor  
Aunt Mary -  
First, my mother -  
then Arthur -  
then Ann, mother -  
in-law (living at  
the house) -  
Then her niece, <sup>STEPHEN</sup> husband  
and wife, Mrs. S. Baker -  
She married the doctor,  
terribly for Mrs. B.  
but she will never  
be satisfied.  
I would like  
to know how  
probably and why:  
"Be strong in the  
Lord" - we all need,  
course, don't we?  
Love - Emma M. F. Paul

Dr. & A. Thompson

Brookfield Center

Conn

✓  
Dear Mrs. Speer -

Since learning of  
Dr. Speer's death, a short  
time ago, you have been  
in my thoughts very much.

May I send my sympathy  
and love? How

well I remember the pleasant  
afternoon at your home some  
years ago, when you invited  
the group to dinner up. And  
it was then that I met  
your husband - over at the  
kitchen in his study. Such  
an interesting room, his  
big table and the book-  
lined room. We all

enjoyed meeting him.

May Mrs Father's love  
comfort and keep you  
always.

Very sincerely,

Linda Throusen

January twentieth,  
Nineteen forty eight

R

24 Tracyway Park Road p. 3.  
December 20.

Dear Mrs Spicer:

You are much in my  
thoughts - for I know so well  
the Sadness that has come to  
you will be heavily felt in this  
holiday season -

I hope you are well -  
With love and deep understanding  
Very Sincerely Yours -  
Isabel E. Pillsbury



ANTONIO ROSSELLINO

*Madonna and Child*

Collection Smith College Museum of Art

Gift of Sir Joseph Duveen

Clarence Kennedy photograph





XII - 17 - 49

Dear Mrs. Sears: -

I know of no one with greater reserves of strength and courage than yourself, - but even so, I am venturing to send you my love and my deepest sympathy.

You were so comforting when I was hurt - those terribly long years ago, - that I wish, in some way I could return you a notation of the strength you gave me then.

You must know that my gratitude and affection are ever present. Yours, + Sister Paul

MRS. PAUL F. BROWN

35 LA FAYETTE DRIVE N. E. ATLANTA, GA.

Dear Mrs Speer:--

You have been much in our thoughts since Dr Speers' going home; what a blessed home-going it must have been; so many over there to give a joyful welcome to such a great and useful servant of the Master.

I have wondered if they take notice of the Saviour's birth day over there!

We will all miss Dr Speer and his messages that meant so

Much to each of us.

We pray that you may  
receive strength to carry on,  
and we know by experience  
that His grace is sufficient.

Dr. Brown joins me in  
much sympathy -

Sincerely

Bessie May Brown

Lakeville - ✓

December 5<sup>th</sup>

Dear Mrs. Speer -

You have been very much in the thoughts since word came of the death of your husband. I understand your loneliness and send you my deepest sympathy.

We had no opportunity to know either you or Dr. Speer well, but our too infrequent meetings meant a great deal to Julian and to me; and the glimpses I've had of you both as you went about your errands in the village have been very heartening.

I know there is little I  
can say to comfort, but  
I did want you to know  
you have been in the  
thoughts.

Sincerely yours  
Margot Street

ARIZONA INN  
TUCSON, ARIZONA

12/2/47

Dear Mrs. Spear ✓

I have only just read of your great loss in the New York papers; and wish to express to you my deep sympathy at your bereavement. Yours is a double loss, for it is not only parting from the companion of a lifetime, but from a co-worker in all your fields of interest.

Dr. Spear's passing leaves

a great void in the life of  
America - one which it will be  
difficult for anyone else to fill.

Mr. Seville and I are  
spending the winter in Tucson,  
Arizona, where we read the papers  
five days after publication in  
New York. Most of the news  
means little by the time it reaches

us; but the news of the passing of  
your husband and the sorrow it must  
inject into your life, still comes with  
a shocking impact.

Sincerely,

Worthe Budgett Shole.



Send my  
love to  
all the  
family

December 14, 1947.

234 PENN STREET  
HUNTINGDON, PENNSYLVANIA

My dearest Emma -

I have just been reading  
over again the leaflet you sent me - I  
can not tell you how often I have  
read it - it is all so beautiful.

The poem he quoted in his last public  
speech seemed prophetic - and how  
touching it is - and true.

You have been so much in my  
thought and heart - and I think con-  
stantly of Rob.

You will be in New York to-morrow  
for the memorial service in the First  
Presbyterian Church - how I wish we might

to there too. One of my friends told me that her sister who lives in Detroit wrote that they had a memorial service for Rob last week in the Woodward Ave. Presbyterian Church. Our church here is planning for a service after Christmas.

There are so many blessed memories of Rob, that I can cherish throughout the days and years to come. I am so glad he was here for the two little visits last summer, and oh, how much he enjoyed our drives over the mountain roads. Each time Charlie would ask him where he would rather go, and he loved it all.

Thank you so much for sending me the card and the folder.

234 PENN STREET  
HUNTINGDON, PENNSYLVANIA

This week I am sending you  
and Marnie little remembrances  
for Christmas - my dearest Lon goes  
wrapped in with the little gifts.

With love to you all -

Affectionately

Mrg.

---



SINCERE SYMPATHY



11



"My presence shall go  
with thee."

Exodus 33:14.

The sympathy of others  
and the wish  
that you be granted comfort  
and courage  
are with you on this day.

Dear Mrs. Spear :-

Having heard that you have  
lost your beloved life companion  
here on earth, I want to extend  
along your many friends my love  
and deep sympathy. (include) Not only you

and your whole family will miss him,  
but whole Christendom. So I pray that God will  
comfort you Himself, that His love and peace  
will be yours in a special way at this time.

We don't know why, that Dr. Spear and Dr.  
Van Ruyk were not left to us a little longer  
for our church does need them so badly.

But we can only trust and believe that His  
Way is perfect, and that He doeth all things  
well, realizing that His thoughts & ways are  
not our thoughts or ways.

I remember him so well at Camp Siamese,  
and the last time I heard him preach was  
at Calvary Church in San Francisco.

Mrs. Stone lives near us, and I get news  
about you from her.

"Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast  
given me, be with me where I am". "In  
heaven a better and an enduring substance".

With love,

from

John F. Wu.

✓  
"Great Str." "

Mystic Conn.

Dec. 9, 47.

Dear Mrs. Spear:

To give my counselor  
and friend throughout  
the many years. My heart  
goes out in deepest sym-  
pathy in the loss of  
our dearly loved one -



1  
I will recall your words of  
cheer and sympathy to me in  
my dark hours. I wish  
I might lighted your burden  
now -

2  
I can only send my deep  
sympathy and my love for  
you and for both your  
"girls" - now your great  
sorrow - Devotedly  
Mrs. (Care) Mary K. Johnson

The National Board  
Young Womens Christian Associations  
of the United States of America



600 LEXINGTON AVE., NEW YORK 22, N. Y. TELEPHONE: PLAZA 3-4700 CABLE ADDRESS: EMISSARIUS, NEW YORK

December 16

Dear Mrs. Spear-

I could not let this business letter go to you without a personal note - the note which should have been written long ago.

It was a very great shock to us here at 800 when we received word of Dr. Spear's death and all the days of that week you were in our hearts and minds.

I went with

Mrs. ARTHUR FORREST ANDERSON  
President

Mrs. HARRISON S. ELLIOTT  
General Secretary

Mr. Hatch and others  
to the service at Engel-  
wood and I was so glad  
that I had. Dr. Coffin is  
always an inspiration to  
me and his reading of  
the Scriptures on that  
Tuesday was uplifting and  
comforting.

I think you must know  
what it meant to many  
people to have you attend  
the World Service Council  
meeting and the National  
Board luncheon. It helped  
us all to forget our small  
worries and sorrows.

I am so glad you have  
your daughters both with  
you now. Christmas will be  
filled with happy memories  
for you this year and have  
a deeper significance than  
usual, I am sure. My love to you  
Jo

515 Park Avenue

November 27 ~~th~~ 1947

New York 22, N. Y.

Dear Emma,

Since we read of Robert's death your and your family have been much in our thoughts and we know what the witness of your triumphant Christian faith is meaning to many at this time. Our love and prayers are with you and your family.

I know you are rejoicing in the fulfillment of his faith in Christ that

is Roberts' name.

Personally I think of him with great thanksgiving for all that his deep faith meant to me, forty years ago at Northfield, as he gave us the reality of Christ in addresses, and then in his books. Of the privilege it was to turn to you and Dr. Spurr when I was wondering about China and missionary service. And to know his Christian statusmanship there, and

later on the foreign board.  
We rejoice in the challenge  
of his life here and pray  
that others may take  
up the standard which  
he held so nobly.

Our deepest love goes to  
you at this time and  
gratitude for you too.

We are praying for you.

Appreciatively,  
Alice Koveris,

2701 W. Grace St.  
Richmond 20 Va.  
Nov. 25, 1947.

Dear Mrs. Spier. —

It will be  
a strange Thanksgiv-  
ing Day for you,  
but oh! how much  
we all have to be  
thankful for in the  
life of that Great  
Saint of God who  
has gone on  
ahead of us! &

can see him so plainly  
by standing on  
the platform at  
Silver Bay, preach-  
ing always - Christ  
and Him Crucified,  
and preaching it  
with his whole be-  
ing. I can see his  
face quivering with  
emotion and his  
hands behind him  
claspings, unclasp-  
ing because of his  
deep, deep feeling.



I know God has used him  
to make Jesus Christ real to  
so many souls and I am  
glad to think of Him in the  
presence of his Lord.

And I know you will be  
given the grace & strength to  
rejoice for him in the midst  
of your own loneliness. I had  
lived only seventeen years, but I  
know what the wound was.  
It cannot be other wise, but in  
all the pain - Peace can come.  
I found it only by a moment  
ary commitment of my mind to  
Him. I am praying it may be  
yours and I know - it will.  
I know too what it is to  
have this special shock at

the Christmas sea-  
son. Asa left me  
Dec. 17. As all  
around you is fes-  
tivity and prepa-  
ration for merriment  
you may feel  
rather alone and  
all around you  
unreal! I know  
of all and shall  
be thinking of you  
in the coming days.

But I know your  
Lord will become to  
you more real as  
the days pass and  
your victorious  
faith will honor  
Him -

Very lovingly -  
Dottie D.W.

Mr. Asa Watkins  
2701 N. Grace St.  
Richmond 20 Va.

2889 San Paqual St.,  
Pasadena 10 - Calif.,  
Dec. 15 - 1947.

Mrs. Robert E. Speer,  
Lakeville, Conn.

Dear Mrs. Speer:-

These days are filled with a beautiful sense of the glory and the joy of the coming of our Saviour. You have been much in my thoughts since the passing of Dr. Speer into that beloved Presence. As at other times, in the crossing over the River of a Companion of Christ, there came to me the words about Faithful - "And all the trumpets sounded for him on the other side".

What Dr. Speer's influence, in

my life has been, I can only  
express in words by the thought  
I have ever had of him -  
"like Christ." To how many  
souls has his life meant - this  
closer fellowship with our blessed  
Master.

Dear Mrs. Sperr, may each  
new day bring to you the  
joy of the Home Companionship  
in which together, as one, you  
and your beloved husband  
have served and will ever  
serve, here and in the Home  
beyond.

In that fellowship I send  
to you this little message of  
love and sympathy -

Faithfully

Martha B. Hunter.

Cable from Paris

Deepest sympathy, Triumphant  
faith. Benjamin } Bush Charles  
Leber

Pears

Deepest Spring

Triumph in Paris

Benj. Bush

Charles

Leber

old Sleepy Hollow Rd.

Pleasantville - N.Y.

Dear Mrs. Spear -

I have been praying and thinking of you since I heard the news of your husband's home going. What a wonderful life of usefulness he had. His sermons were some of the first that I heard years ago at Northfield and I can see that little note book come out with his notes!

We all with a Christmas heritage have been nobly blessed  
Sun. Much love, Kay O'Connell



LEONARD HEIMANN

Springfield Mass  
November 25, 1947

901 Belmont Ave.

Dear Mrs. Speer,

last night, in a lecture on Dante, we met Miss Reed and she gave us the sad news that Dr. Speer has passed away.

This is a loss which those will feel most who were privileged to live near him. But it is a loss to us, too, and beyond us to all those whom the deceased helped, through his teachings, in their struggle to promote the good and to fight the evil.

Will you kindly accept this very  
inadequate expression of our deepest  
Sympathy.

I remain,

Gratefully yours

Howard Heiman

My dear Miss Kells

136 EAST 67TH STREET  
NEW YORK 21  
N. Y.



Dear Mrs Speer - You  
have been needed in  
my mind and heart  
in these days since  
Dr Speer's death. How  
wonderful that you  
have had him all  
these years and what  
a heritage of love and  
admiration he leaves

to you and the children.  
I think few people can  
in one generation have  
done as much for the  
spread of Christianity  
and the knowledge of  
our Lord. What an  
addition he is to the  
Church triumphant.

Always very love to you  
Mary

Thank you very much

To You  
IN YOUR  
Sorrow





With

understanding

sympathy

From

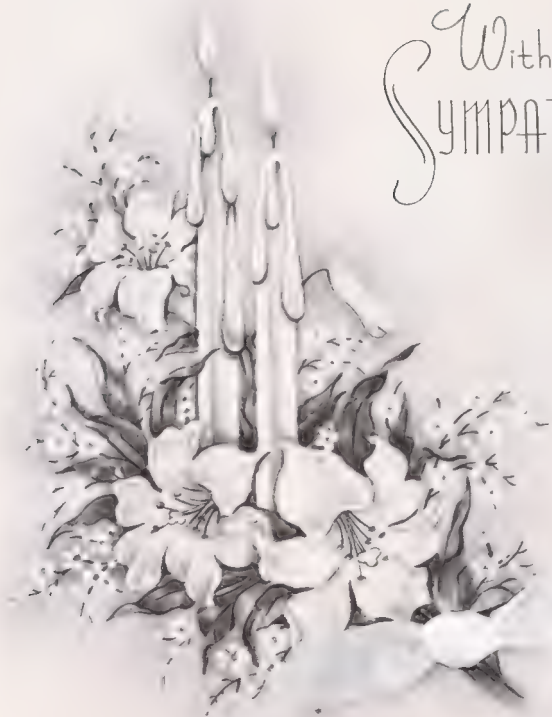
The Women's Society of  
Christian Service of

The Lakeville Methodist  
Church -

10 AS 8052  
COPYRIGHT MCMXLVI  
RUST CRAFT BOSTON, U. S. A.



With  
SYMPATHY





✓ ~~2/13~~  
With deepest sympathy

This message is sent

to express

the hope that you be granted

comfort

and courage in your

hour of sorrow.

Mr. & Mrs. Harry Brown

&  
Mrs. Michael Brown



Lakeville, Conn  
Nov., 26, 1947.

My dear Mrs Spicer:

I want to express my  
heartfelt sympathy in  
your bereavement.

My association with Dr  
Spicer both in business  
and otherwise was always  
very friendly.

Sincerely  
Harry T. Miller

38 Lincoln St.  
New Haven - CT  
November 28, 1947

My dear Mrs Speer,

I cannot let another day pass without letting you know that my loving thoughts are with you and your family as you face the days ahead.

Though you rejoice that your loved one has heard his master's call and stands with the redeemed in His presence, yet the benediction of his radiant smile, his wise counsel and the fine education of his daily life will be sorely missed.

I treasure many happy memories of my contacts with him and his inspiring friendship with my family.

God grant His presence and comfort.

Affectionately Clara D. Loomis

TALCOTT MINER BANKS  
WILLIAMSTOWN  
MASSACHUSETTS

Nov 28-1947

Dear Mrs Spear -

I read with sorrow of Robert's passing. He was one of my oldest and dearest friends, and I held him in affection and admiration through all the years since I first met him at Andover in 1884. A friendship like that is one of life's best gifts, and I am thankful that it fell to my lot to enjoy it. I shall treasure his memory.

With deepest sympathy,

Sincerely,

Talcott M Banks

113 ✓  
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
THE NORTHFIELD SCHOOLS  
EAST NORTHFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

November 25th, 1947

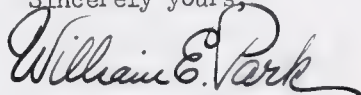
My dear Mrs. Speer:

The sudden passing of Doctor Speer has brought a feeling of great loss to all of us at Northfield and Mount Hermon, and I wish to take this opportunity to express our sympathy in this time of deep trouble. I am extremely sorry the word of his passing did not reach us in time so that we might have been present at the service.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees of the Schools I want you to know how deeply grateful we have been for Dr. Speer's support and counsel over the years. It will be most difficult for us to find as splendid a man to carry on in his place.

If there is some way in which I can help you at any time I hope you will call on me.

Sincerely yours,



President

Mrs. Robert E. Speer  
Rockledge  
Lakeville, Connecticut



Flowers



Mrs. Edward A. Savin

1805 Hillcrest Road  
Chestnut Hill, Pa.

November 24, 1947.

Dear Mrs. Speer,

Holly told me this morning  
about Dr. Speer, and, though you  
may not even remember me, I  
do want to tell you that I am  
thinking of you with deep sym-  
pathy and understanding. I lost  
my own husband about two  
years ago, so I know what you  
are feeling: and know that

The fact that you both had so many beautiful years together, is probably not, now, a comfort.

But I think it will be, and because you have both been so close to God, you will find that you are still unbelievably close to each other, in spite of the physical separation.

A life such as Dr. Speer's, which has been lived for the glory of God is an inspiration which will live on forever, in

The lives of countless people whom he, or  
his influence, has touched. It is people  
such as both of you - and all your  
family - who portray, with compelling  
beauty, the power and the glory of the  
Christian way of life.

With my warm affection and heartfelt sympathy,

Bobbie Savine

MRS. S. PARKES CADMAN  
INDIAN MT. ROAD  
LAKEVILLE, CONN.

November 28  
1947

My dear Mrs. Speer:

May we send  
you our deep and sincere  
sympathy in the great  
 sorrow that has come  
to you and yours. He  
brought hope and com-  
fort to so many during  
his long and active life  
that the measure of his  
influence will never be

huson. But perhaps in  
the first sad days of separ-  
ation it will comfort you  
to know your many  
friends are remembering  
you where it is ever best  
to be remembered.

Your husband's memory  
will be ever green and fra-  
grant. "Well done" could  
never be said more truly than  
of him. We pray God will  
comfort and sustain you.

Very Sincerely,  
(Mrs. S. F.) E. R. Cadman  
(mc)

9877 ✓  
Dylora Obery  
38 James Street  
Englewood, New Jersey

Nov. 28, 1947

Beloved Mrs. Speer:

May the great comfort and blessing you have been to us all come back to you, increased an hundred fold these days of your own deep need.

What a privilege it was to have known dear Mr. Speer all these years! In such countless hearts and lives he lives on, still blessing and inspiring.

As you wrote me at the time of

Mother's going so we can say of your  
dear one: "He is with God and God is  
with <sup>us</sup> him so he must still be very near."

We are so glad Patty could come to  
be with you for awhile.

Thank you for your message sent  
through Mrs. Sailer.

Our love and prayers are with you,  
as you know.

as ever,

Sylvia



November 27, 1947

40 GRAND VIEW TERRACE  
TENAFLY, NEW JERSEY

Dear Aunt Emma,

You and all your family have my sympathy. It has been a joy to see a family so active and with such widespread interests yet so closely bound together in affection. I had heard so much from Peggy of your years in Englewood and at Diamond Pond that I feel I have known Uncle Rob for a much longer time than I really have. It is hard for me to realize that I knew him only in his later years. He never seemed old to me (which must show how fully he always lived). It will

always be a pleasure to me  
that I had the privilege of  
knowing Uncle Rob and all  
his delightful family.

As I know you will hear  
from so many of Uncle Rob's  
countless friends I hope you  
will not find any of your  
hard-pressed time replying to  
this. We shall hope to see  
you some time soon.

Affectionately

Shafe

79 Summit Road

Port Washington, N.Y.

December 4, 1947

✓  
Mrs. Robert E. Speer,  
Lakeville, Conn.

My dear Mrs. Speer,

My husband, who because of a heart attack, is unable to write, asked me to send you this message:—

Words are feeble but sometimes through the intuition of the heart, they carry a little message—  
ment even in a great grief. You can be proud and grateful for having had, as a companion so long, one of such noble ideals and high purposes, expressed in constructive public service, and one of whom so many Americans, too, are proud.

(Mrs. Robert Gordon)

Sincerely

Marion B. Anderson

Will Augusta  
brave the  
winter weather  
+ come to us  
in New Year?  
Our hearts  
are with you  
all -  
Auntie

# The morning after Christmas

MRS. HENRY SLOANE COFFIN  
"COOMBE-PINE"  
LAKEVILLE, CONN.

Dearest Emma.

If you were home on your hill this morning you would see only blowing snow, and we could not reach you except by telephone - It is a day for retreat into our safe places - I look with great sympathy on our birds who brave the snow for food - Here is our course our only anxiety, if it can be called by so big a word, is that Bill Coffin is due to meet three other men this afternoon in Canada and all expect to drive to Canada for sleighing - No one is stirring yet with us, so I don't know of caution

AD give our love to Marie + August -

will be the order of the day, but knowing  
Bill Coffin I feel he will proceed, with  
joy in facing the difficulties.

As to the news of the  
hurricane in poor Manila, destroying  
the pitiful homes in that pitiful city,  
is being told over the air - My only comfort  
for them is that the poor scraps which  
make up their present homes can be  
easily reassembled and put together.  
But the present distress must be very  
great.

We had quite a perfect week  
in New York - To begin with our hotel was  
excellent - well kept and really moderate in  
price - I recommend the Barbizon Plaza to  
Marnie and Auguste when they need to stay  
over night - It had an added interest as many  
UN people and other foreigners fill it,  
and often we felt we were in Europe.

The chief joy, of course, of our week,  
was being with our children and friends.  
I feel "caught up" as I haven't since  
we moved up here, with our friends in New

MRS. HENRY SLOANE COFFIN

"COOMBE-PINE"  
LAKEVILLE, CONN.

York - To be near Louise Schieffelin in her  
time of weakness, and pain, comforted us very  
much - She is so exceedingly dear to us, and  
I have suffered at not being able to be near  
her when she wanted and perhaps needed us -  
She grew stronger in the week we were there, but  
she has always been the embodiment of the joy  
of life and strength, physical and spiritual,  
and I can only pray she may be kept in the  
fullness of life, even tho' it means leaving

us - How much you must be learning in  
these lessons of sorrow and loneliness, my  
dear - It belongs to us all - has to belong to us -  
and yet so few stop to listen and understand  
what is being said to us through our pain -  
As I sat by Louise and thought how much would  
pass for life with her going, I still could feel

so strongly the mercy of that grip, if it  
could come before she herself had left us. It  
is the partial death that is so hard to compre-  
hend -

Christmas up here has been a real  
Carnival and ~~was~~ affair - On Christmas  
<sup>Dec. 23</sup>  
~~was~~ enough snow fell to cover everything  
in perfect beauty and whiteness - It has  
never looked more lovely. Our W<sup>mn</sup> Cypri-  
fainly reached us in time for some of  
us to see the pageant in the Congregational  
Church at seven o'clock - Elsie Reed dressed  
them, with help for Margaret Street, and it  
was very well done, as usual - very simple  
and full of real feeling - The nicest part  
to me is when in the lovely old dark church  
the "angels" light the candles in the  
windows - Then the building is suddenly  
really blossoming in beauty and expectati-

Margot Coffin <sup>3</sup> came up late - She works  
too hard at Lake Success, but it is very  
interesting work -

MRS. HENRY SLOANE COFFIN  
"COOMBE-PINE"  
LAKEVILLE, CONN.

So instead of  
midnight carols we put ourselves to bed  
and yesterday had a perfect day for  
Christmas, and enjoyed it without  
weariness - The children shined in the  
afternoon - We, and Milly Fowler & the  
Emers-Quail family made up the congre-  
gation at St. John's in the Communion  
service at 10 o'clock - Ruth and Ted  
got through to us by telephone at noon,  
full of joy at the day and their  
happy prospects - They were able to  
buy back the perfect house they had  
found at Harum, which was sold over  
their poor heads - Now they feel it is  
theirs, and their life is full of happy



plans of really having a home - Poor Ruth can hardly wait to have her baby to herself - Meta has been wonderful, but of course now she is too absorbing to the baby, and Ruth can only have time when Meta is off - Ted's mother is in town, so they are having their reunions - We all dined together at the Waldorf, where they are staying, before we came up -

The snow is coming down more & more reluctantly - It's now after breakfast - Alex & I have been feeding a field sparrow who is taking refuge under our dining porch -

We miss you and love you "more than tongue can tell" - and think of you and Robert as our own dear and special household saints, giving us light and joy always -

Mr. & Mrs. Robinson

Nov. 27, 1947  
114 East 90th St.  
New York 28, N.Y.

V

Aunt Emma dearest,-

Just this morn'g I  
picked up Wednesday's paper  
to throw it away, and saw  
the notice about Uncle Rob.

Oh, Aunt Emma, I am so  
sorry. The world has really  
lost a wonderful man, who  
was such an inspiration  
to everyone he contacted.  
It is sad, and very hard on  
those he left behind. My  
heart goes out to you, dear  
Aunt Emma.

There is little anyone  
can say or do to help,  
in a time like this, but  
it does comfort me to hear  
from friends and to feel  
they are thinking of me

and are grieving too.

I have been just dreadful about keeping in touch with you, and you have always been so sweet to me. Please forgive me.

Charles IV telephoned me this morning from Colorado, where he is stationed. He has a girl, he wants to bring home for Christmas. Naturally, the answer was "of course." I know her Aunt & Uncle and they are lovely people. I shall let you know results!

Hayne & the twins are fine and she is really doing a splendid job of living. I am proud of her. When I am in New Orleans I shall take some pictures

of them & send them to you.

Please let me know ~~when~~ <sup>if</sup> you come to New York, I should so love to see you again.

With a heart full of love and  
my deepest sympathy.

Affectionately,

Mary

2/23

(~~Handwritten~~)

Wednesday

Dear Auntie Emma,

There's so little I can say at a time like this. Uncle Rob has always been such a constant inspiration to so many people. He will be greatly missed by all but his spirit will always live on - a guiding light.

My one regret is that I feel that I've seen so little of Uncle

Bob. It was so wonderful for Betsy  
and me to have a chance to see  
both of you when you were in  
New York and Uncle Bob was there  
in the hospital. We'd never had much  
of a chance <sup>before</sup> to catch anything but  
fleeting glimpses of both of you, and  
we feel very fortunate in having  
you there and being able to come  
see you. Even then, when he was so  
sick, I remember how impressed I

was by Uncle Rob's spirit, and  
how remarkably cheerful he was.

He'll always be an inspiration  
to me, and I consider myself most  
fortunate to have known him.

With much love to you  
and your family,

Nancy Gross

1843  
Hill Top Farm  
North Wales  
N.B.  
Va.

Dear Mrs. Spell.

I was so grieved  
when I read yesterday  
paper the notice of Dr.  
Spell's death. I had not  
I suppose was ill  
and when last I heard  
you reach I should  
so well.



Miss Morgan and I  
have much love and  
heartiest sympathy  
and love.

I can never forget  
your good help to me  
Monday of last ago.  
and only wish this  
night to have had  
I could help you.

Harrows. And away  
to the hands to make  
speed and a fare  
such inhibition and  
help, and I trust to the  
as his makes is now going  
Easier to bear.

I hope you are well.

Very  
yours

Mary Whitby

September 26, 1947.

R78\*2  
Aberdeen  
Md.

Nov. 25<sup>th</sup> 1947

Dear Emma,

This carries my love to you  
as I pray that the peace of quiet  
that you so long have yearned  
will continue with you.

You and I have both been  
blessed with many years of  
life with loving husbands, and  
when our separation comes, may

God's sustaining grace be as  
real and true as I know it is  
to you now.

And is it not wonderful to  
have our children around us.  
So much to be thankful for.

With affectionate thoughts of  
you and the intimacy of our  
young days, as well as the widely  
separated meetings since then!  
I am your old friend and cousin  
Lizzie Finney

Miss Hattie R. MacCurdy  
119 East 29th Street, New York 16  
Telephone MUrray Hill 3-0566

Dear Mrs. Spear

Since Monday when word of Mr. Spear's Home-going reached me when I was in our Board's offices, you and Margaret and others in your family circle have been in my thoughts and prayers.

I heard Mr. Spear's name first in Toronto at a Student Volunteers Convention at the turn of the Century, then a few years later when I was an art student in New York I wrote

Mr. Board of Foreign Missions  
to get a schedule of the  
meetings he would be addressing.  
I followed him about - even to  
near-by out-of-town gatherings  
because his messages reached  
me as nothing else did when  
my heart was hungry.

How many can tell a  
story like this! What fruit  
his life bore! No one on earth  
can know all that is back of  
the "Well done!" that he is  
now hearing - So - I am  
glad to be writing you on

Miss Hattie R. MacCurdy  
119 East 29th Street, New York 16  
Telephone MURRAY Hill 3-0566

Thanks giving day for in  
the hearts of all who are  
mourning this great loss  
there is a still deeper  
thankfulness for what his  
life meant and for the  
great harvest, and for the  
joy he has entered into.  
I know you are also  
thankful for the work in  
this world is yours - in his  
life and his labor on earth  
and that before too long you  
will see him again where there

are no more partings  
with love to you,

Father

and a message of  
sympathy and affection  
also to Margaret Grace.

Nov 27 -

1947





I saw friend  
 I thank you  
 so much  
 for the memorial,  
 & to dear Mr. Spurr  
 & always send best  
 wishes & - I enjoyed  
 what - nice times  
 the had there  
 Alice and I.

I got - Mr. Spruce  
little book for  
minutes a day -  
They see them at  
the Church, and  
I hope you know  
away. I should  
bless you every  
day and every  
where. May be  
ward you closely  
in His care  
Love yours

may she live  
year be a blessing  
one, year is  
now up - I have  
and she lives  
Holy Spirit so  
much she know  
a dear gift  
June - 10. now  
the year happy

320 Riverside Drive  
New York City  
December 30, 1947.

Dear Mrs. Speer:

Ever since Dr. Speer  
was translated, I have been  
intending to write you, just  
to be as more of your  
friends saying how wonder-  
ful he was and how tender

is my sympathy for you.  
You must miss him un-  
speakably and will for every  
day of your earthly pilgrimage  
yet remaining.

You who have comforted  
so many with, I  
hope, kind comfort for your-  
self. I know your other-  
centeredness will help and  
that having some of your  
children (nearly) is a  
boon at such a time. But  
how fragrant Christmas  
must have been.

Please do not try to  
acknowledge this. It is  
just a kind squeeze, a  
heart message to you with  
my loving sympathy.

Sincerely yours,  
Sarah P. Lyon



Apt. E.  
439 Bloomington  
Ave.,  
Wooster, Ohio.

Dear Mrs. Spear: -

These are thoughts  
that came to my mind  
when I heard that Robert E.  
Spear had passed into  
the Presence: Blessed are  
the dead who die in the Lord,  
Breathless has fallen; The  
Glory is his.

We know he met with a  
gracious welcome, it could  
not be otherwise.

I remember so many in-

stances of his un-  
derstanding kindness to me when  
he was our secretary for  
Peria, and I know every  
missionary would say  
the same.

I have treasured his notes  
of appreciation & encour-  
agement this past year  
in the bit of wood. I am  
privileged to be your friend  
& Peria's Librarian.

Only I shall miss the mes-  
sages, & the world will be the  
 poorer for lack of his  
testimony to the all-suffi-

inert power of Christ for those  
whose trust is in Him.

You cannot but be lonely, but  
you have the surety of a joyful  
reunion.

God - His hand is yours. He  
will bless you & keep you; His shin-  
ing of His face will be upon you,  
He will give you peace.

Yours, with love,

- Clara M. Stone.

December 2, 1947.



DELAVAN L. PIERSON  
184 FERNWOOD AVENUE  
UPPER MONTCLAIR, N. J.

Nov 19, 1947

My Dear Rob:

May our Heavenly Father  
give you new strength in His  
service. I am very sorry that I  
can say that you cannot ~~please~~  
be with us on Dec. 13. We will  
miss you greatly but you will  
be in our hearts and prayers.

Hope that your stay in Bryn Mawr  
will be a real benefit to you & all  
thought you will be nice Maryall.  
They will love to have you. If a  
miracle should be wrought  
may it be a sign that you can  
be with us - we want you & need  
you.

Affectionately yours

Dreaman

Perhaps you can send us a note.

DELAVAN L. PIERSON  
184 FERNWOOD AVENUE  
UPPER MONTCLAIR, N. J.

Nov 23, 1947  
Miss Emma Bailey Speer

Dear Friend Emma

Your letter came to me  
yesterday and Margaret's  
telegram came this  
morning with is very  
disturbing news. We can  
only love and hope and  
pray.

I was planning to write  
to you before your letter  
came. You will very lovely  
to write about Rob and his  
condition. I know that he

is having the best care that  
love and medical skill  
can provide and we  
commit time & the loving  
care of our beloved  
Father. Bob means more  
to me than I can ever say.

I am sending word &  
offers in our Dutch Day  
group. Sam Zuercher  
has already talked with  
me over the phone about  
it.

With real love and  
sympathy and faith

Yvonne L.P.  
Please thank ~~the~~ group  
for the telegram.

## CLASS OF SERVICE

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# WESTERN UNION

JOSEPH L. EGAN  
PRESIDENT

LADY

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.PA116

1947 NOV 24 PM 12 40

P. NJ33 PD=MONTCLAIR NJER 24 1211P

MRS ROBERT E SPEER=

825 MONTGOMERY AVE BRYNMAWR PENN=

MY DEEP AND LOVING SYMPATHY GOES OUT TO YOU ROBERT LIVES  
FOREVER WE SHALL MISS HIM HERE UNSPEAKABLY=  
DELAVAN L PIERSON.

1050 PARK AVENUE  
NEW YORK

My dear Emma:-

My heart aches  
for you to-night, as the  
news was brought to me  
of the passing into  
Life Eternal of your dear  
husband. He has spent  
his life doing good, and  
even latterly, where his  
strength was not at its  
best, he spent all of it

doing the Master's work.

I am so thankful that I came that last time to see you & had a little visit with Dr. Speer, but frankly I feel that he was not well & came home with that strong impression.

I know dear, what it is to part with a life's Companion & how hard it is to bear that cross, but

you, like your dear husband  
are always thinking of  
others, + not of yourself,  
and I trust you will  
take up this cross and  
carry it valiantly.

God bless you + keep you  
my dear friend. I will  
be thinking of you all  
through the next few days,  
as I have not even gone  
to the city as yet -  
With a heart full of love



and sympathy.

Yours affectionately

Mary L. Miller

Nov 23<sup>rd</sup>



Mrs. Russell Carter

To Kate St  
Small block  
55

Dear Mr. [unclear]

285

My deep and understanding  
sympathy to you at  
this time of separation -  
what a wonderful wife  
you have obtained - and  
what service he has done  
to us all.

Remember me to your  
Robert and how affectionate  
from all other contacts.

Now - some great work  
is forthcoming - and reality.  
I in a practical way this  
world's life.

I hope you will find  
a feeling of the constant  
presence of what will all  
some what you truly hope  
to one - [unclear] of [unclear]



A MESSAGE OF

*ympathy*

188



7/1/1911

Temp. 14.11

Latitude 40

My thoughts go out to you  
each day,  
And I keep wishing, too,  
That I could somehow  
find the words  
To help and comfort you.

Love,

O. H. Seymour.

Dear Mrs Speer:

I feel a very real personal loss in the passing of Mr. Speer. And I think that is the feeling of the entire community.

However, God has been good to us all, by enabling Mr. Speer to lead such a long useful life to the very end -  
all my sympathy.

Sincerely,

5 AS 7945  
COPYRIGHT MCMXLVI  
RUST CRAFT BOSTON, U S A

Jay Seymour

MRS. GEORGE VAN SANTVOORD  
THE HOTCHKISS SCHOOL  
LAKEVILLE, CONNECTICUT

Dear Mrs Speer -

I want you to know that I am  
thinking of you & of your great loss -  
All who knew Mr Speer share  
with you in part your sorrow. He  
was such a fine, true & gracious gentleman.  
A great Christian, one who gave his life



for his fellow men - who never  
saved himself. It was a great  
privilege to have known him &  
he will not be forgotten -

Will be thinking of him particularly  
Sunday next when he was to have  
spoken here. We will remember  
his talks of other years.

Love to you -

Affectionately

Alice B. Van Santwed

Nov. 30 - 1947



Dec 1 - 1947.

My dear Mrs. Speer,

My sincere & loving sympathy goes to you at the time of your great loss.

How we will all miss his inspiring messages when it was our happy privilege to hear him with us at First Church.

I was always deeply regretful when he came to us while we were away in the country. But this year we had returned from Dorset, Vermont - when we had been gone a month & on Aug. 10<sup>th</sup> had the pleasure of hearing him preach on the text - "Be always ready to give an <sup>reason</sup> ~~account~~ for the faith that is in you" And then after the service had the privilege of a few pleasant words

with him - he was always so friendly  
& cordial.

Best we all have this cup is  
but a vestige to the larger rooms  
in the many mansions & we hope  
& trust we may meet him here.

Very affectionately,

Carrie E. Cassida

358 W. 22<sup>nd</sup> St -  
N. Y. City 11

10 L 217

LILY OF THE VALLEY

*Brownie*

COPYRIGHT 1946

Mount Hermon

November 25, 1947

Our dear, dear Mrs. Speer,

Dave and I long to put our arms around you this lonely day, and tell you how proud we are to be friends of your husband and yourself. Every time we hear or speak your names, we stand up straighter. Knowing your great faith, we are sure that this change will mean no

real separation from your noble  
companion.

If anything should occur to  
you in which we could be of help  
(you know Dave is a sort of genius  
in practical matters), we should  
be so glad to go to Lakeville and  
do it. But now all we can do  
is to love you, and be glad that  
we know about the beautiful  
life you and Dr. Speer have  
lived together.

God bless you every minute.

Your loving  
Sophy and Dave

V  
Apt. E  
439 Bloomington  
av.  
Cincinnati, O.  
March 17.

Dear Mrs. Spur,

The little book, "Fellowship of the Spirit" will be a choice possession, because it is from Dr. Spur's pen, & because I do believe so firmly in the Fellowship of the Spirit, & do depend upon Him for guidance.

Thank you for the



little book, also for your  
note to me & the beautiful  
printed messages.

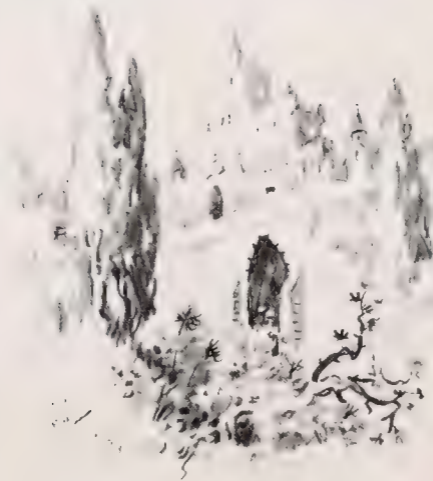
I reread the apocrypha  
now & then, & had read "The  
Wisdom of Solomon" just  
a day or two before your  
note & enclosures came  
& I was struck by the  
beauty of your quotation.

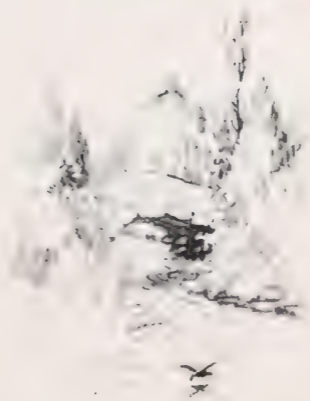
Just last evening, Dr. J.  
Campbell White addressed  
the Mission Circle here &  
he referred to Dr. Spurr's  
influence on his life. I think  
they were associated in  
the Student Volunteer Move-  
ment.

The Mission Circle in Troost  
consists of all mission-  
aries, furloughed or retired

and their families. There is  
a monthly "out together" &  
we love it.

With loving regard,  
Yours sincerely,  
Ottora M. Stone





Dec. 4 -

My dear Mrs Spear:-

I have just  
read through a  
classmate of  
your husband's  
of the death of  
dear, dear Dr.  
Spear - than whom

There was not a more wonderful  
radiant Christian gentleman.  
I have admired him since I  
was in my late teens - when he  
was doing Christian Endeavor  
work -

My heart goes out to you in these  
lonely days and times - but  
I'm sure he has a wonderful  
reward -

My husband passed away in  
India in 1941 and I've been home  
in Toronto since - can recall  
Dr. Spear lost visit here.  
I'm sure he has been a inspiration

to many thousands.

With loving sympathy  
for you and

Ruth Newton

4006 NE Flinders

Portland 15, Ore.

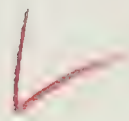
In Sympathy







Expressing deepest sympathy  
In this, your hour of sorrow,  
And praying that  
His peace and love  
Will brighten your tomorrow.



John Symmes Stone, M.D.  
Carefree, N. C.

*Gartner and Bender, inc*



REG U S PAT OFF MADE IN U S A

T 3344

1888

Miss Carson

Holland

AN  
SINCERE

Sympathy



Rev. T. H. H. H.

327 Harvard Ave.

London.

9/5



"God is our refuge  
and strength."

Ps. 46:1. & John 14:27

Dear Mrs. Speer.

Thinking of you  
in your sorrow,  
and extending to you,  
in all sincerity,  
deep  
and heartfelt  
sympathy.

With my prayers -  
it is so good to have  
known you and  
Dr. Speer. -  
and Mother & Dad would  
say so too. - God Bless you  
with love - Sincerely - Mary Eason  
Holland.

D404

50.5

Thanksgiving Evening.

Dear Mr. Spear:

You and the  
members of your family  
have been much in  
my heart since leaving  
that Mr. Spear had  
passed on - to his  
Heavenly Home. Two  
thoughts seem to crowd  
me all others from  
my mind - What rejoic-  
ing when his beautiful  
spirit meets the

Heavenly Father - and  
those whom he has loved  
and loved - and  
shere peace, rest and  
happiness must be he  
after a long life of  
constant sacrifice and  
service in this troubled  
world. I am sorry that  
you must travel on  
without the love and  
companionship of your  
devoted husband, but the  
precious memories of so  
many years together will



be an ever source of  
peace and comfort to  
you. You and Mr. Spear  
have brought help to so  
many when suffering  
and grief have come  
to them it makes one  
feel very helpless not  
to be able to do  
something for you in  
this time. I know  
Frances and Tom will  
be eager to do all  
they can to make the

coming days less  
difficult for you. Be  
free that "a Prince  
has fallen - this day  
in Jerusalem"

Affectionately  
Mary C. Mitchell

21 Marlborough Street  
Boston 14, Massachusetts

MRS. J. RUSSELL CHANDLER  
1241 OLMSTEAD AVENUE  
BRONX 61, NEW YORK CITY

went to bid farewell to our beloved Berk shires, giving the congregation and ourselves time to get used to the idea of our leaving.

We hope the work in this much smaller church and small community will be less strenuous for my husband. We're rooting the family after six

ten years has been a great  
wrench. We live now in sight  
of the high peaks of the Rockies  
and are enjoying the brilliant  
Colorado sun shine.

Our sincere sympathy  
goes out to you.

Affectionately yours,

Emily G. Chandler

1<sup>st</sup> Jan 1912

✓  
Dear Mrs. Greer

Having a letter from Isabel Hoos I just learned about your sorrow, and I want to express to you my deep regrets and sincere sympathy.

How you must miss the dear companion of so many years and such

unusual personality, that  
D<sup>r</sup> Speer was.

The words and moments of  
comfort you gave me in  
the tragic hours of my life  
are still present in my  
memory and I wish I  
could write the same  
to you, unfortunately I  
have not such gift but  
I can tell you that you  
are in my heart and in

my thought, that I pray  
for Him and for you, I  
am sure that your great  
faith will help you to  
endure this irreparable  
loss.

Avec mes bien sincères  
et affectueux sentiments

Allys Lachaise

606 West 116<sup>th</sup> St.

New York 27

740 Washington St.  
San Francisco Calif.  
Dec. 27, 1947.

Dear Mr. Spence -

The days have been full  
of so many things - so many of  
them extras at this time of year.

Our Philetus will not  
for some time have a blessed time  
and so many of the girls, who  
are going home, have  
expressed what it has meant  
to them to be here. They, in  
such dear, and precious  
in His sight, and two in  
that which we regard. Mine  
& accepted Him in their  
personal service and then  
in the winter of 1946 for the  
job I was to give about the  
one who plans to marry an  
American boy, (of Protestant  
Italian ancestry). Clara for  
has been under the spirit  
of blessing for some time. I  
talk to her and she has  
been able to truly help



Wileen by first surrendering  
her own life to Christ, & she  
could take I saw her thro  
giving a treatment and  
autofornism she was her being  
about this whole matter. So  
God is working & I pray we  
may be able to really help  
Wileen. Perhaps God will  
work through her sister  
Clara now that the  
channel is clear.

It is bitter cold here for  
this part of California. There  
is snow on the nearby  
hills & the wind take  
away it were blowing  
right off of it. From what  
we read in the papers the  
east is in the grip of  
a terrific snow storm.

I spent a very enjoyable  
Christmas Day with my  
dear Paul. He was very  
dull - most of the day,  
but he brightened up

2. toward the latter part of the afternoon.

Mr. Miller had called a photographer to the house, a week or two ago, and had every good portrait he will take. He doesn't look like a so respectable well man, but it is very good considering. She had it for a long time presented to me for Christmas. Of course it was a complete surprise and when I saw it I was speechless - actually I couldn't say a word for a short interval. You may imagine how glad I am to have it. The miller was so much useful to me. We will do the best to repay them for all they do for my poor old, no money things that money can not buy for.

Will seem to have snipped

and for the practice and  
the whole is for several weeks  
is calm secure again.

I'm sure the "bubbling"  
times are close about you  
day by day. It is wonderful  
that in such a time to live  
and day at a time and  
every day. Hidden with  
Christ is God's love  
to us all day to us and  
those about us.

God bless you my precious  
friend - you are so near  
and dear to me.

So much love,

Kellen

Deep and sincere sympathy



J

W.H.

Mrs. Hugh Hazelton

170 Sherwood Place  
Englewood, New Jersey

Excelsior Springs, Mo.

Nov. 15, 1947

My Dear,

My descript memory  
is quite embarrassing, but I can't  
seem to improve it much, altho I  
do believe it has improved a little  
in the last few months.

Anyway I can't remember  
whether I answered your letter  
in which you mentioned the  
"Mary King Memorial Room"  
and your placing "the Biography  
of a Cathedral" there or not. Don't  
that strange, but I can't.

Anyway I think it would be

a beautiful tribute to Mary for you  
to want to and it will give us all  
such pleasure to place it there. The  
room is so pretty and restful and  
and the books will come gradually.  
I'm here at Excelsior Springs at a  
little sanitarium to get a few  
treatments for my arthritis. Thought  
I needed a little change and  
rest between "babies".

Momnie's little Eugene is  
about eight weeks old and  
Leroy's little one is  
expected about the middle of  
December. I do wish you could

be in Leroy's home. It is attractive  
and comfortable and their home life  
is no mist. Lou John, my son-in-law  
and Leroy are just adorable.

Little Sunday is too cute and sweet.  
Recently we spent the night with  
my sister-in-law and her husband  
and they were to my sister, "my  
mother, please come to my house to  
have a look." She was rather to  
the game and it was better as  
well.

I know the view from your front  
porch is breath-taking these few days.  
I shall never forget it! Oh, that

wonderful visit! I believe it some  
week, I know. That was the greatest  
experience of my life and I cannot  
describe as if I want to as you  
don't know what to do.

I wish you and ~~to~~ <sup>to</sup> ~~see~~ <sup>see</sup> you  
could come again to see me.

Anyway, I love you -

Oh yes, my precious friend, Emily  
Bramlett passed away Tuesday of  
this week - I cannot describe, I think.  
She had much of the same and  
she was a man thinking through  
her illness - she died. She was  
a wonderful inspiration to the



young girls there at the hospital as well as to all of us who were with her and her going will mean another distinct loss to me.

I planted a rowed bed of tulips just south of my front porch which I think will be a beauty spot in the spring. It will be a mixed bed - purple, yellow, red, white, and pink. I selected my colors and varieties and I can hardly wait to see them. I planted them twelve inches deep and planted about sixties.

My sister will not get into her

home until' after Christmas now. She  
was disappointed in a delay in  
her Curtiss Windows, and that  
will through the whole job back  
quite a lot. The house will be  
such a lovely place. I deal for two  
people and with many of the  
modern conveniences.

I have duties to do now, so I  
must stop.

Much, much love,  
Priscilla

Answered letter

Miss Cassatt's letter

Guest room

606 West 122<sup>nd</sup>  
New York City N.Y.  
January 4 '41

Dear Mrs Speer:

This morning as I read Abba my thoughts turned to you. Do you remember ~~we~~<sup>we</sup> discussed it as we rode together with Mr. McChesney on the way to a T. S. Elliott hour?

I've thought of you often and wanted to write you of my admiration of Dr. Speer. You must have had so many letters from all over the world that your days were filled with them. Please don't consider that this one needs a reply.

It was during college days that I first heard your husband speak at Wellfleet and at Silver Bay. The rigor of his approach to the

Christian life was inspiring. We felt he had more clarity of vision than most of the speakers we heard. While none of us can miss him as you do, a great many share your bereavement and hope that our sense of loss may in some way lighten yours own.

Muriel Lester has been visiting us. She's an amazing and delightful person. I like to hear her tell of England now, for her reports reveal a growing spirituality there and a new spirit. "Really, we're quite nice <sup>to</sup> now" she said. "The war changed us." For instance she told of the thousands of people who wrote to one of the newspapers, remonstrating with the suggestion that rationing should be lifted on anything while there were so many hungry people in the world.

Incidentally, Muriel Lester was our fourth guest since Christ was  
(over)

who came unexpectedly because  
of the storm. If you're ever  
stranded, remember our guest room.

I wonder if you know God's  
Candlelight by Mabel Shaw, an  
English woman. I did not. Murial  
Fester feels it has changed the  
lives of many of those who've read it.  
She's very fond of it.

Walther joins me in prayers  
and good wishes for you. —

Cordially yours,  
Eloise to Davison

Mrs. W. S. Stone  
940 Washington St  
San Francisco 2  
California



**AIR-MAIL**

Mrs. Robert Elliott Spear  
835 Montgomery Avenue  
Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania

SECOND FOLD HERE

THIRD FOLD HERE

FIRST FOLD HERE



340 Washington Street  
San Francisco 9, Calif.,  
January 2, 1948.

My precious Mrs. Speer,-

Dear Mrs. Speer to you! It is so good to hear from you that came today. I marvel how fast our letters travel back and forth. Yours was mailed Dec. 31st at 2 PM and I got it this morning a little after 10.

You see I also make use of this box of airmail stationery that I brought back with me from Rockledge. It slips into the typewriter so easily.

I'm surprised that the avacodos reached you so late. I sent for some for ourselves and they came a full week before Christmas. Probably the storm delayed yours so no wonder they were ready to get when they arrived. The plant they arrived at a time when they could be used for a special occasion. I ate some of that delicious dessert out of some of yours and the other members of the staff vote it to be the best ever.

I'm so glad you will enjoy the book about New Zealand. I enjoyed it so much that I thought you would too. When my present term runs out with the Literary Guild Book of the Month Club I am going to give it up, and have decided not to join another. The choice is not always what I want and here is too much fiction. You are so good about telling me about books that I have meant something to you, and then I see or read about others that I want. I have decided to get what I want when I want it hereafter. I will get "The Man Born to be King"! I'm sure the Episcopal Church Book Shop will have it and no doubt other places.

You are such a dear to write me as you do. I can imagine that there are many things piled upon your plate in winding up your business affairs, for so many things that your dear one used to do now falls into your hands to care for. I'm so glad your brother is well. Then the task of pastoring hundreds of letters is a large one. I deeply appreciate the place I hold in your life, for you are deeply precious to me and I thank God for you daily.

I have just finished my finance reports for 1947, that is for Dec., because our fiscal year does not close until May 31st. My next job is an annual report, not statistical, but the life here at Sun Camp for the past year, for Miss Feltine, but I am not going to start that this evening, as it is after seven o'clock now. I have been working here in my room this afternoon since I wouldn't be disturbed by calls etc., though you call if needed. So before putting the typewriter to bed for the night, that I will have a little visit on paper with you.

New Year's Day I spent with Rhoda Foster Warne and her husband and her mother. It rained all day, but we had a lovely day indoors about the open fire. It's still raining and we are so grateful, for this part of the country is so in need of it. Consequently it is much warmer.

So glad you have had a good visit with Miss Shearman. Please give her my love and greetings and tell her to write to her or see her again. She is a dear person. I have a friend, just two years younger than I, and we have been very close since we were girls together in school.

I am just finishing the delicious peach jam I bro't home with me from Rockledge. There is just about enough for two more breakfasts. It has been such a treat and the nicest peach jam I have ever had. I also have some blackberry jelly that I had from Mrs. Jones, and the strawberries, so through the kindness of my good friends I have jellies and jams! I feel I have come to the end of the paper.

Go to Richard's office and see many things to see. You will find so much to see. Help. Do not forget to see the den - Helen

✓ Bradenton Beach, Fla.  
Jan. 20, 1948.

Dear Mrs. Green,

It was at Bradenton  
Beach in Tampa  
that we were first  
told of Mr. Green's death.  
During these sad weeks



to an ~~hour~~, our love  
and thoughts have  
been gone out to  
you! The thoughts  
and prayers to be  
sent, in every part  
of the world, to show  
you and to show  
that such an  
inspiration, must be  
a power of great  
strength to you at  
this time.

My dear friend, I  
find me in love  
to you.

Love me, today.

Deepest Sympathy



May  
~~Mrs~~ BISSELL

LAKEVILLE CONN

940 Trachington Street  
San Francisco, Calif.  
Dec. 5, 1947.

My dear Mr. Spence -

The lovely message from the "7<sup>th</sup> Avenue"  
to me was such a comfort & I am sure with  
your personal message written with  
your own dear hand. What a wonderful  
gift from you was, & I hope it will  
help you through these difficult  
times. I am so glad to hear  
that you are all well & happy.

I am so glad "St. Francis" has  
reached you & it has  
such a sweet comforting message.

Wish I could see you & hope that  
your bright eyes will come  
to you from England & that  
joy & comfort it must be to you to  
have her close to you just now.

I have ordered a nice law suit  
for you. They are very good now &  
I hope you will enjoy them.  
A little later I am mailing to  
you what I had for you.

with. I have just the 30 minutes, or  
I thought you might enjoy it  
to get it, so I am sending it all  
to you as a gift, with much love  
I will see my Christmas shopping  
as early as possible - get it out  
of the way before - bring you  
to keep here & give you a little  
for these are very large.

I still have one small jar of the  
delicious peach jam left & I  
am sorry it will be hard to have it come  
to an end. It has been so  
delicious & I've so enjoyed it.

Rhoda Foster Trane is giving  
me some blackberry jelly now,  
so I'll have that to look forward  
to. I spent my lay off & etc. day  
with them in Berkeley & had such  
a nice time.

I have spent hours of work in  
the new fields where I have, I think  
I read - you know I was with you  
in Sept. I estimate from the trees,  
with the bark & bark to 100 feet  
- 1.00 c. etc. I will cut some to send you

2 The Publishers have kept in Cincinnati,  
with word that we cut that we  
want it in Nashville, Tenn. & will  
be in to read there for it, so it  
will be after the first of the  
year before the actual work on  
them begins & probably early  
next year if they are off the press,  
but I hope to have them before  
I go to Denver in order to get the  
jurisdictional meeting & a visit  
to Atlanta & a report for speaking  
appointments. It will help to  
have some of these publicity  
pictures with me.

Yours richest blessing upon you  
and yours & dearest love & hope,  
The Rev

1. S. Shall we have our first ever the  
telephone this year, or on 2nd or 3rd Day?  
If it could be service or you expect  
the call in from here if you have  
time to read me Margaret's telephone  
number. If I were to call you on a  
Sunday, the reduced rates only in  
effect all day. On Sun. Jan 4<sup>th</sup> inf  
Larkin here at 8 to 10 A.M. & 8 to 10 P.M. 10

Should be out at 4:30 am. If you leave there at 3:00 am it should reach you around 5 P.M. If same other time is more convenient, please let me know.

If you think it best not to do this year, will be grateful if you let me know.

Yours  
H. C. C.

✓  
Delroy B. ...  
4.

Monday, 1<sup>st</sup>  
Dec 1<sup>st</sup>

Dear Woman: I do hope you  
know how much I have been think-  
ing of you - We only heard to-  
day from Peggy, of the passing  
of Rob. - Only men who have suf-  
fered know what it means - to  
lose that which we hold nearest  
& dearest is very hard. - I tried to  
pull out when I knew that Rob  
was so ill - but I had only one  
thought to get Elean, where it  
would be of more use - I had not  
seen her during these three  
years - with - poor man - I know  
too well - I hope & pray this  
winter will pull her up - also  
little Lacey, may not have so  
many colds - It is cold here  
night & morning, & has rained  
a great deal since we arrived  
last Friday night - but when

The Sun does shine It is  
good & warm. — The flowers are  
blooming in spite of the cold.  
The lovely herbaceous, & many  
ones, whose names I don't  
know, — but are so rampant  
on the fences, — & porches.  
Ela & A, walked just a  
few miles away from our  
house yesterday, taking both  
sides of the main road,  
White Birch — Vinca. — I love  
all the white flowers. —  
I wish you were right here  
with us — It would do good  
aches a lot of good to  
heart — aches. — but your  
old knees. After our five  
days ride. It was just



Thanks too. — I will write you  
again soon. — My dearest love,  
may God, in His great mercy  
bless you, & keep you. —  
 Lovingly,  
The Other Women.

✓

MRS. CHARLES L. REED  
PENN STREET  
HUNTINGDON, PENN.

Journal  
Service  
10

My dear Emma -

It was good of you to send me the program of the anniversary services of the Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church, and I have enjoyed very much reading it. I had heard of and read of Dr. Judd - and would like very much to hear him some time. His influence in Congress should be good. I think both the Senate and the House would be the better for some good Christian influence. Thank you for having Dr. Matt's article sent to me. I liked his reference to Rob's

happy home life.

The memorial service was held in  
our church on the 21<sup>st</sup> (Mary's birth-  
day) and it was a beautiful service.

Aunt Clara told me that she had  
sent you a programme and also the  
memorial to be entered on the minutes  
of the congregation, so I shall enclose  
them in this letter. Dr. Kerr's  
address was wonderful. He spoke of  
Pop's sense of humor, and I think  
that would have pleased you - for  
in one of your letters you said that  
you had wished that some one in the  
service at the First Church had mention-  
ed it. I believe our Daily News is  
going to print Dr. Kerr's address.

MRS. CHARLES L. REED  
PENN STREET  
HUNTINGDON, PENN.

There were two lovely jars of flowers  
in the church - first snap dragon and  
first gladioli and they were given to  
Aunt Clara and to us after the service.  
Aunt Clara heard the service over  
the radio. He wanted to take her  
in the car - but she decided to  
hear it at home, which was probably  
better. I had a nice, comforting  
talk with Dr. Kern after the service -  
and he inquired for you.

Everything is covered with snow  
here - it snowed all day yesterday  
very hard. The thermometer has been

going below zero day after day. I  
think 20 below zero was the coldest  
we have had. It is all too cold  
for me.

With dearest love, in which  
Charlie joins -

Yours affectionately  
Mig.

January 25, 1948.

The Chateau,  
Huntingdon Ave.

Dec 17 1947.

Dear Mrs Speer,

Mrs Robertson and I have just heard - in correspondence from Kansas - with great grief, of Dr. Speer's going from you. When exactly this occurred we have not heard and of course do not know whether the bereavement was sudden, or whether he had been ill. He arrived back in New York from England in August and we understood Dr. Speer had preached at the First Church the preceding Sunday, and we had expressed to each other our disappointment to miss him. He had hoped to write you of our visit to Mrs Carlson and of the hopeless quest for housing in Britain, but as housing is also difficult, though not so hopeless here, our quest has continued and left little time, or rest of mind, for ordinary correspondence.

We do send you our deepest sympathy in your loss, and pray that you may be sustained, having the richness of the promises and the comfort of the Holy Spirit. We are constantly startled by the loss of one and another.

dear friend, and that must be necessarily so  
as the years mount up. We are happy to  
have known D.<sup>r</sup> Spear and think of him  
always with affectionate esteem and regard.

D.<sup>r</sup> Spear's letter with Mrs Parkour's address  
reached us ~~at~~ <sup>on</sup> our way to the station en route  
to Bristol & we early telephoned her and had a  
delightful afternoon. Our whole visit to  
Bristol, at a conference of the Hymn Society,  
was a delight. The weather was the best of that  
summer, and our hopes were still high. It  
was early this year that we decided it was useless  
to prolong our search for a home. Last month  
we came here for the winter. We have a small  
house-keeping apartment in this quite-good hotel  
but it is still a temporary expedient. We want  
an unfurnished house at a modest rent, prefer-  
ably in the New England States, but shall go  
wherever suitable housing offers.

Mrs Robertson is pretty well, but at the  
moment suffering from a nasty fall on the  
icy road. The D.<sup>r</sup> assured us the bump on  
his head & other bruises are external only & will  
pass.

With warm sympathy and all best wishes for the  
season. May Jesus himself draw near

Very sincerely  
D. A. Robertson

Coinville, Mississippi

Dec. 8, 1947.

My dear, sweet friend,

Your welcome note with enclosure, was received Saturday. Thank you for sending me the folder you and your family arranged. That was appropriate, for we, at a distance cherish a last word from our sweet friend.

My, how much you and he have meant to me! I shall never forget his greeting, with a kiss, when I saw him in Athens,



Alabama. I filled my car and  
drove up to be with him that day.  
I sat by him at the table. I love  
him devotedly.

The notice in our little paper  
was such a nice one, I thought,  
and I am told that there was  
also an editorial. I was away  
and little Maurice was so busy  
with his baby she just  
didn't think to save them for me.  
I shall try to buy a back-copy  
of the paper.

The Biography of a Cathedral  
is interesting and I shall

read it before I put it in the  
library. I place it there with  
Lillian's love and gratitude to  
my devoted friend.

Please remember me to Miss  
Margaret. It is a little good-  
bye of me. I think of you so  
often. I know how you would  
feel about Dr. Speer's leaving and  
yet I also know something of the  
loneliness caused by the  
separation. We missed Mary  
so this fall.

Mary's love sends her love. Thank

Talked about you to me when I saw him and wanted to write you. I don't know whether I did or not.

Mommie's baby is adorable. He still requires much attention, but they all do.

I shall be thinking of you at Christmas and I am making a contribution to our Negro work here, in loving memory of Dr. Spur. We have two Negro Missions in action here now.

My love always,  
Priscilla

Bethune - Colman College  
Daytona Beach, Fla.  
January 23, 1948

My dear Mrs. Speer:

Yesterday a letter from  
Margaret Sherman informed me  
of the passing of Dr. Speer.  
It was an utter surprise to  
me as I had no indication  
that he had been ill and  
he looked the picture of health  
when I last saw him.

Today, Mrs. Ruth Merrill  
of the United Council of  
Church Women spoke here  
at the school. She gave me  
more details and emphasized

what a blessing and spiritual influence he had been to the world.

I thought you might be happy to know that a small group meets each morning in the President's office for devotions and "Five Minutes a Day" - the copy you gave me is in constant use at these devotions. I had told them of you and of him, and his influence is helping us here. They share with me in feeling a personal loss at his going.

Margaret tells me that you are fine - just as I expected. Mrs. Spear, I am

striving to get hold of some  
 as you have, of that Empire  
 Service which sustains me at  
 all times. My opportunity for  
 service here is very great.  
 I may be doing a little something  
 but it is not maximum, I am  
 sure. I am constantly praying to  
 be worthy to truly be of help here.

Mrs. Bethune is away most  
 of the time in Washington. Our  
 new president is a man of  
 41, father of 6 children and  
 from all indications a conscientious  
 Christian gentleman. I think  
 he makes a grand successor  
 to Mrs. Bethune who is  
 now the President Emerita.

4.

My regards to Miss Spear  
and to her co-workers and, my  
heartiest best wishes to  
you always.

Sincerely your friend,  
Mae C. Hawes

Mrs. Cleland B. Mc Afee 735 Washington Street Wellesley, Massachusetts

Jan 13, 1948

My dear friend:

Your letter dated Dec 15 was not forwarded to me for some reason - I left there Dec 10. and did not return until Feb 7. I went to Succunnet to spend Christmas with Ruth (whose husband died last March). She is living in Succunnet - with Mrs Geo Irving - and working as Religious Educ. Sec. in the Succunnet Church. We had our New Year Day - a storm - which the Radio said "was the worst since a Century." Nancy Ames was without light & heat - Telephone - Mrs Irving had gone to work with her daughter - near Cleveland) - and I had her room. All Ruth's children - son & two daughters - were there (two are married) and we had a very lovely family (was.



Mrs Dowling came back this  
 morning 11th. so glad to  
 get salubrious news! I thought  
 so much about you - I feel  
 so glad you are going to  
 stay with Margaret - until  
 shipping - I received a program  
 for the beautiful Methodist  
 service at 1st Church - and I  
 heard your message about the  
 beautiful service if was -  
 Our Memorial, was held there in  
 '47 - and I had always  
 appreciated the sermon which  
 St. John's read - Psalms - Psalms - and  
 snatched 25:1 - 34 - 40:1 from Williams -  
 Hanson's Church - who lives at  
 Cumberland - was so grieved to  
 hear of your illness - and so  
 sympathetic! One gets somewhat  
 used to the absence - but it does  
 not get easier - so much is  
 bound up in our life - and it  
 is forever! as far as the earthly  
 life is concerned - The prayer -  
 of the <sup>49</sup> <sup>17:2-3</sup> <sup>18:1-2</sup> <sup>19:1-2</sup> <sup>20:1-2</sup> <sup>21:1-2</sup> <sup>22:1-2</sup> <sup>23:1-2</sup> <sup>24:1-2</sup> <sup>25:1-2</sup> <sup>26:1-2</sup> <sup>27:1-2</sup> <sup>28:1-2</sup> <sup>29:1-2</sup> <sup>30:1-2</sup> <sup>31:1-2</sup> <sup>32:1-2</sup> <sup>33:1-2</sup> <sup>34:1-2</sup> <sup>35:1-2</sup> <sup>36:1-2</sup> <sup>37:1-2</sup> <sup>38:1-2</sup> <sup>39:1-2</sup> <sup>40:1-2</sup> <sup>41:1-2</sup> <sup>42:1-2</sup> <sup>43:1-2</sup> <sup>44:1-2</sup> <sup>45:1-2</sup> <sup>46:1-2</sup> <sup>47:1-2</sup> <sup>48:1-2</sup> <sup>49:1-2</sup> <sup>50:1-2</sup> <sup>51:1-2</sup> <sup>52:1-2</sup> <sup>53:1-2</sup> <sup>54:1-2</sup> <sup>55:1-2</sup> <sup>56:1-2</sup> <sup>57:1-2</sup> <sup>58:1-2</sup> <sup>59:1-2</sup> <sup>60:1-2</sup> <sup>61:1-2</sup> <sup>62:1-2</sup> <sup>63:1-2</sup> <sup>64:1-2</sup> <sup>65:1-2</sup> <sup>66:1-2</sup> <sup>67:1-2</sup> <sup>68:1-2</sup> <sup>69:1-2</sup> <sup>70:1-2</sup> 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<sup>125:1-2</sup> <sup>126:1-2</sup> <sup>127:1-2</sup> <sup>128:1-2</sup> <sup>129:1-2</sup> <sup>130:1-2</sup> <sup>131:1-2</sup> <sup>132:1-2</sup> <sup>133:1-2</sup> <sup>134:1-2</sup> <sup>135:1-2</sup> <sup>136:1-2</sup> <sup>137:1-2</sup> <sup>138:1-2</sup> <sup>139:1-2</sup> <sup>140:1-2</sup> <sup>141:1-2</sup> <sup>142:1-2</sup> <sup>143:1-2</sup> <sup>144:1-2</sup> <sup>145:1-2</sup> <sup>146:1-2</sup> <sup>147:1-2</sup> <sup>148:1-2</sup> <sup>149:1-2</sup> <sup>150:1-2</sup> <sup>151:1-2</sup> <sup>152:1-2</sup> <sup>153:1-2</sup> <sup>154:1-2</sup> <sup>155:1-2</sup> <sup>156:1-2</sup> <sup>157:1-2</sup> <sup>158:1-2</sup> <sup>159:1-2</sup> <sup>160:1-2</sup> <sup>161:1-2</sup> <sup>162:1-2</sup> <sup>163:1-2</sup> <sup>164:1-2</sup> <sup>165:1-2</sup> <sup>166:1-2</sup> <sup>167:1-2</sup> <sup>168:1-2</sup> <sup>169:1-2</sup> <sup>170:1-2</sup> <sup>171:1-2</sup> <sup>172:1-2</sup> <sup>173:1-2</sup> <sup>174:1-2</sup> <sup>175:1-2</sup> <sup>176:1-2</sup> <sup>177:1-2</sup> <sup>178:1-2</sup> <sup>179:1-2</sup> <sup>180:1-2</sup> <sup>181:1-2</sup> <sup>182:1-2</sup> <sup>183:1-2</sup> <sup>184:1-2</sup> <sup>185:1-2</sup> <sup>186:1-2</sup> <sup>187:1-2</sup> <sup>188:1-2</sup> <sup>189:1-2</sup> <sup>190:1-2</sup> <sup>191:1-2</sup> <sup>192:1-2</sup> <sup>193:1-2</sup> <sup>194:1-2</sup> <sup>195:1-2</sup> <sup>196:1-2</sup> <sup>197:1-2</sup> <sup>198:1-2</sup> <sup>199:1-2</sup> <sup>200:1-2</sup> <sup>201:1-2</sup> <sup>202:1-2</sup> <sup>203:1-2</sup> <sup>204:1-2</sup> <sup>205:1-2</sup> <sup>206:1-2</sup> <sup>207:1-2</sup> <sup>208:1-2</sup> <sup>209:1-2</sup> <sup>210:1-2</sup> <sup>211:1-2</sup> <sup>212:1-2</sup> <sup>213:1-2</sup> <sup>214:1-2</sup> <sup>215:1-2</sup> <sup>216:1-2</sup> <sup>217:1-2</sup> <sup>218:1-2</sup> <sup>219:1-2</sup> <sup>220:1-2</sup> <sup>221:1-2</sup> <sup>222:1-2</sup> <sup>223:1-2</sup> <sup>224:1-2</sup> <sup>225:1-2</sup> <sup>226:1-2</sup> <sup>227:1-2</sup> <sup>228:1-2</sup> <sup>229:1-2</sup> <sup>230:1-2</sup> <sup>231:1-2</sup> <sup>232:1-2</sup> <sup>233:1-2</sup> <sup>234:1-2</sup> <sup>235:1-2</sup> <sup>236:1-2</sup> <sup>237:1-2</sup> <sup>238:1-2</sup> <sup>239:1-2</sup> <sup>240:1-2</sup> <sup>241:1-2</sup> <sup>242:1-2</sup> <sup>243:1-2</sup> <sup>244:1-2</sup> <sup>245:1-2</sup> <sup>246:1-2</sup> <sup>247:1-2</sup> <sup>248:1-2</sup> <sup>249:1-2</sup> <sup>250:1-2</sup> <sup>251:1-2</sup> <sup>252:1-2</sup> <sup>253:1-2</sup> <sup>254:1-2</sup> <sup>255:1-2</sup> <sup>256:1-2</sup> <sup>257:1-2</sup> <sup>258:1-2</sup> <sup>259:1-2</sup> <sup>260:1-2</sup> <sup>261:1-2</sup> <sup>262:1-2</sup> <sup>263:1-2</sup> <sup>264:1-2</sup> <sup>265:1-2</sup> <sup>266:1-2</sup> <sup>267:1-2</sup> <sup>268:1-2</sup> <sup>269:1-2</sup> <sup>270:1-2</sup> <sup>271:1-2</sup> <sup>272:1-2</sup> <sup>273:1-2</sup> <sup>274:1-2</sup> <sup>275:1-2</sup> <sup>276:1-2</sup> <sup>277:1-2</sup> <sup>278:1-2</sup> <sup>279:1-2</sup> <sup>280:1-2</sup> <sup>281:1-2</sup> <sup>282:1-2</sup> <sup>283:1-2</sup> <sup>284:1-2</sup> <sup>285:1-2</sup> <sup>286:1-2</sup> <sup>287:1-2</sup> <sup>288:1-2</sup> <sup>289:1-2</sup> <sup>290:1-2</sup> <sup>291:1-2</sup> <sup>292:1-2</sup> <sup>293:1-2</sup> <sup>294:1-2</sup> <sup>295:1-2</sup> <sup>296:1-2</sup> <sup>297:1-2</sup> <sup>298:1-2</sup> <sup>299:1-2</sup> <sup>300:1-2</sup> <sup>301:1-2</sup> <sup>302:1-2</sup> <sup>303:1-2</sup> <sup>304:1-2</sup> <sup>305:1-2</sup> <sup>306:1-2</sup> <sup>307:1-2</sup> <sup>308:1-2</sup> <sup>309:1-2</sup> <sup>310:1-2</sup> <sup>311:1-2</sup> <sup>312:1-2</sup> <sup>313:1-2</sup> <sup>314:1-2</sup> <sup>315:1-2</sup> <sup>316:1-2</sup> <sup>317:1-2</sup> <sup>318:1-2</sup> <sup>319:1-2</sup> <sup>320:1-2</sup> <sup>321:1-2</sup> <sup>322:1-2</sup> <sup>323:1-2</sup> <sup>324:1-2</sup> <sup>325:1-2</sup> <sup>326:1-2</sup> <sup>327:1-2</sup> <sup>328:1-2</sup> <sup>329:1-2</sup> <sup>330:1-2</sup> <sup>331:1-2</sup> <sup>332:1-2</sup> 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December 3, 1947

Dear Mrs. Speer

Florence Kirk has written that you are with Marny, and that is comforting to know - Along with countless others I am sending out to you my loving thought - I think it may somehow be that Dr. Speer who has shared joys and sorrows with you through so many years is sharing with you and helping you to bear this greatest one - There are few like him who from so early in life to the very end of a long span was able so marvelously to serve and help his fellow man -

Your long, useful, and happy life together are a glorious example

To young people - May there be  
many to come along like you and  
to bless the world mentally  
and spiritually -

With ever grateful affection

Francis C. Dunham

1112-16<sup>th</sup> St N.W.  
Washington 6.

Nov. 30<sup>th</sup>

LAKEVILLE MS

FELPKILL

SALISBURY

CONNECTICUT

Dear Mrs. Speer

Please accept the  
love and understanding  
which I would so much  
to send you for your loss  
at this time of sorrow.  
T. S. Reid says "Our  
peace, in his will" which  
is very concise and yet it's

My all embracing of  
the only way to accept  
the sorrows in life and  
face the future. You have  
so much faith, I know you  
do not need to hear these  
things, only, that I do  
want you to know that  
you have Dee's and my  
warmest sympathy.

I know you have wonderful  
memories and that is

a light up.

Always affectionately  
his warmer

Severe

Severe Park, Ind.,  
Dec. 2-47.

My dear Mrs. Spear,

At last the sad news has  
penetrated to this back eddy,  
and dear Robt. is no more here,  
I'll never forget your hospitality  
that winter day & Robt.'s dis-  
appearance into the kitchen &  
the mysterious sounds  
quently as he thrilled me when  
he spoke and over the years  
built a gift of this courage  
and faith & the men draw  
in sliding into my own life -  
I never returned but would  
stay till day in the home,  
It was a rare privilege to be  
drowned with a bit of this

big-hearted friend ships, and  
to labor a little with him in  
Providence.

How the Unsub must have  
struggled on the other side.  
He was ever a fighter - as our  
fight now the last of the kind.  
It was glorious that you two had  
that precious year together in  
retirement - but, O, the loneliness  
to you around the great reunion.  
God bless and help you and  
all those of your household who  
share the great sorrow.

Sincerely & gratefully yours  
Henry Z. Brown



49 Abbot St  
Andover, Mass.  
Mar. 5, 1948

✓  
Dear Mrs. Spear,

It is always with  
love and admiration that  
I think of you but how do  
you know that I am especially  
loving you in prayer since  
your fine husband crossed  
the threshold to life if I don't  
tell you?

The enclosed booklet was  
written by a dear friend  
of mine - I feel you will  
find comfort in it.

This requires no answer  
So save your strength -

With all good wishes  
and His blessings  
Ray Allen Eaton

Highlands, North Carolina,  
July 13, 1948.

Dear Mrs. Speer -

Sometime ago we were listening to the radio when I heard a reference to 'the late Robert E. Speer'. I was so shocked I could not even be sure I had heard what I thought I had. So characteristically I wrote Mrs. Niedenstein to put me straight, as she always did. And now I have heard from her — confirming my fears.

I am sure I am very, very late, but even so I do want to add my word of sympathy to that of your many friends.

Always, I think of you very often — of the many wonderful hours we had together and of how much they meant to me — altho' they were intended to be for the benefit of the National Board.

I hope you are well and enjoying the beauty of life in lovely Lakeville — with some of your children there, too.

This is the first real vacation I have had in a number of years — during mother's long illness. She is so much better now and is with my sister while I am away. This is my fifth week here — and I am feeling perfectly fit — ready to go back, even to Florida heat and monotony (which is the worst part of the heat).

Highlands is delightful - altitude of over four thousand feet makes it really cool - something I had never quite believed. Of course it is not New England, but it is so relatively near south Florida that it is a more typical summer retreat.

Please know how deeply my heart reaches out to you in love and sympathy. There is only one sure comfort -- your own faith and closeness to God, and I know you love that in a very real sense.

With every good wish to you and my love,

Ever sincerely yours,

Ruth Deemer.

MRS. DANIEL JOHNSON FLEMING  
400 WEST 119TH STREET  
NEW YORK CITY 27

Nov. 25. 47

Very dear Emma,

It was such a privilege to be  
amongst the dear neighbors who met  
in the Little Chapel for prayer of  
deep thanksgiving for the long life  
which had been our inspiration.

It is hard to feel we shall not see  
so dear his voice again.

Dear Jesus and in sympathy  
for all the family - especially you,  
who will miss him more than words  
could express.

Our love to you!

Elizabeth.

Mrs. H. Norman Perkins  
1239 Noyes Drive  
Silver Spring Maryland

✓ 1239 Noyes Dr.  
Silver Spring, Md.

My dear Mrs. Speer,  
Faith Parule was here for  
dinner last evening & in the  
course of the conversation  
mentioned Mr. Speer's death,  
taking for granted of course  
that we knew about it.

We had not heard the sad  
news, I don't know why.  
Everyone took for granted  
that we did know. Ruth  
Scott said nothing in her  
letters to inform us & we  
had missed seeing the  
announcements in the  
papers.  
Although I have not seen

or heard him speak for many years. Mr. Spear is one of the freshest and most beautiful memories of my life. During the formative years he was one of the great influences to turn my attention to the things of the spirit. I imagine hundreds of people have written to you, saying this.

Please accept my deepest sympathy.

I have been making my home with Josephine Brown since my husband's death. My boys are near enough for me to visit but they have their families



and I think it best not  
to stay with them. Also  
Josephine and I have  
found this arrangement  
very satisfactory. I am  
director of religious education  
at St. Agnes Episcopal School  
in <sup>Washington, D.C.</sup> ~~Washington, Va.~~  
Josephine is  
a professor at the Catholic  
University, School of  
Social Service.

Jim, my oldest son, is  
vice-president of Sewall Moore  
& Courtland & a professor  
of aerodynamics at Princeton.  
I have five grand children!

Think of you with great  
admiration & affection  
& I wish I had the privilege  
of seeing you.

Josephine joins me in love  
and sympathy.

Feb 16/45

Sincerely  
Emily T. Verbits

MRS. HOWARD S. KERNER  
LAKEVILLE, CONNECTICUT

3 Décembre 1945

Chère Madame,

J'ai appris avec tristesse la  
mort de Monsieur Spear et je  
veux vous dire chère Madame  
que je pense bien à vous et  
partage votre chagrin.

Je me rappelle en souvenir  
la fête que j'ai organisée  
il y a 14 ans pour mon  
cher Alvin si gentille.

Les suprêmes condoléances  
sont qu'ils restent à vos côtés.



MRS. HOWELL H. RICHARDS  
Indian Mountain School  
Lakeville, Connecticut

Nov. 30, 1947

Dear Mrs. Speer,

Howell and I  
were so sorry to learn of Dr.  
Speer's passing. The world can ill  
afford to lose men like Dr. Speer.  
What a splendid contribution he  
made toward a better world —  
and how we shall all miss him!

Fran Wagner told me today that  
you had made a flying trip to  
Lakeville and had remembered  
the aprons for the upkeep sale. That

was characteristically thoughtful of you.

Frank also said that Mrs. Barbour had flown over and was with you. That's ever so nice. Please remember us to her. If circumstances had been different, we would have loved seeing her, asking about the children, etc.

We are selfishly sorry that you are to be away from Wakeville this winter. We were hoping we might play chauffeur for you often - but it will be lovely for you to be with your daughter.

There was a large attendance at church this morning - Mrs. Barnard's last Sunday here. About some Episcopals were there. He preached a fine sermon. I suppose in some way

it will work out all for the best, for  
someone - but we do so hate to see  
the Danrales leave. After our ten  
years, it was such a comfort to have  
them here.

There is a bit of snow on the ground  
up here - just a hint of what is  
to come - and the thermometer this  
evening is 12° above.

We hope that you will have a  
good winter, and we shall be  
looking forward with eagerness  
to your return in the Spring.

Sincerely yours,

Frank and Florence Richards

MRS. W. R. MOODY  
"THE HOMESTEAD"  
EAST NORTHFIELD  
MASSACHUSETTS

My dear Emma:  
I have written until  
I thought you would be at  
some excuse writing me.  
It was a great shock to get  
Margaret's news about  
Bob's death. I had not  
heard that he was alarm-  
ingly ill. It is some-  
thing that his  
was not a lingering  
illness with suffering.  
How little we know about

it all and yet no thoughts  
& I was in him in the  
spirit of love and the  
heart of duty and love  
and fidelity if it were not  
as I would have told you.

It is a new path for you  
dear Emma and I see  
experience waiting for you of  
the amazing love and  
compassion of Heavenly  
Father. My love and  
blessings will follow you  
your old friend  
Wm. W. Hedley



M BVA

Handwritten scribbles

Handwritten symbol

Handwritten text:   
Handwritten scribbles  
Handwritten scribbles  
Handwritten scribbles  
Handwritten scribbles

will accept

the very best

spells

of the same year

has to be the

445

North Shore Hotel

Evanston, Ill.



The last day of 1947.

My dear Mrs. Speer,

The holidays have been lonely for you, I know, for the same has long been true for me.

I think of you daily as I use Five Minutes <sup>3</sup> a day, before each meal. Your husband's "wants to follow him", and this morning I resolved

to tell you so, tho' I know  
of course, that you do  
not need to be told.

My father and my  
mother died Christmas  
week, many years ago  
and the experience  
should give me an under-  
standing of hard times  
that others must face.

There lies here before  
me your husband's  
note, in answer to mine,  
written for his birthday.

I treasure his letter and  
the memory of talks that  
I have heard him give  
and his great construct-  
ive work on our mission  
board.

May the New Year bring  
to you many blessings!  
and please realize that  
I do not expect an answer.

Sincerely,  
Alice E. Hadsworth.

✓  
CHARLES E. DUNN  
19 WEST STREET  
FAIR HAVEN, VERMONT

31st Dec., 1947

My dear Mrs. Speer-

I was very sorry indeed to hear of the death of Dr. Speer. He was a familiar figure on the Princeton campus when I was a student there 35 years ago. I heard him speak often then and I also had contacts with him in later days. I think the last time I heard his voice was when he spoke in the spring of 1936 at the Dinner celebrating the centennial of Union Seminary.

I have two of his books, "The Marks of a Man," and "The Principles of Jesus."

He was without question one of the greatest of modern Christians with a world-wide influence of amazing extent. His missionary statesmanship was of the highest calibre.

I am aware also that you and he passed through a very grievous personal sorrow and did so with a triumphant spirit.

All those who knew Dr. Speer will cherish his memory and try hard to live by his devotion to Christ.

With deep sympathy,

Chas. E. Dunn  
Minister, First Congregational Church

# HOTEL LAKE ALFRED

"In the Lake Region"

LAKE ALFRED, FLORIDA

JOHN C. MANOR, JR.  
Managing Director

Dear Emma ✓

Your sweet note of sympathy to us on John Gobens death has been shared with a few friends here and then sent on to Jane Gobens - You continue to "show us the way" to meet loss - even tragedy - the way you and Mrs. Speer have always faced them - It is hard for most of us to live the faith we profess - You are given the grace to do this; and so are a blessing + example of your wide circle of friends - I wish I could pass on to you the many tributes to your husband we have heard by the group here at the Hotel - Many of other denominations, + different walks of life speak of the influence he has had on their lives - also in letters from friends widely repeated and the same testimony as to the inspiration he has been to them

UNDER SAME MANAGEMENT

THE MANOR  
ASHEVILLE, N. C.

We leave for home April 1<sup>st</sup>  
and will soon be attending the  
Salisbury church with you and  
listening to our new pastor -

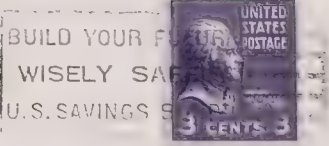
You have heard of the sudden  
death of Dr. Union Park - Mollie  
Or Cheney had written of her nervous  
nervous condition, & later sent us  
a full account of her last illness  
& sudden death. We shall  
miss her. He was a ~~top~~ link with  
our H. H. K. days, and we had  
many long talks together on the  
deeper things of life. But we are  
glad that he is released from the  
tribes & tensions of life in a big  
school. I am reminded in "Albert  
Schweitzer, The man & his music"  
He was one of Mr. Fisher's heroes &  
was the first, I think, who interested  
me in him -

This has been hurriedly written  
before church time - Our greetings  
to Margaret & Billy, and love to  
you -

Truly yours  
Margaret Brown  
February 29<sup>th</sup>



From C. S. Reed  
1 Edgewood Court  
Springfield 9, Mass.



Mrs. Robert E. Speer B MAINE  
425 Montgomery Avenue  
~~Boyer Manor~~  
Pa. #1

NO POSTAGE  
NECESSARY  
IF MAILED  
IN THE  
UNITED STATES

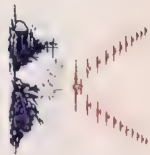
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✓ 1 Edgewood Gardens  
First Sunday in Advent

Anna beloved - all this last week  
so full of many duties, deep down  
in my heart there has been quiet  
for constant love & prayer, for  
thanks & giving a praise - I  
think of the Mystic Rose whose  
petals are the saints triumphant  
that encircle God -

I am so grateful that I could be  
with you in Edgewood - what  
a beautiful & wholly appropriate  
service - I hope I can go over it  
all again sometime - I came  
away so strengthened - so re-  
forced to go on - that is what



R & S has been doing for me all these  
fifty years - It was something like this I  
was trying to say in my letter that you  
lost - after my October visit - All my love.  
I'll be writing again soon. I love you Clara

MRS. WM. MANSFIELD CLARK  
GARDEN APARTMENTS  
BALTIMORE 10, MARYLAND

Dec 4-47

Dear Mrs Spear:

Thank you for your precious note, and the pamphlet with such beautiful and appropriate quotations of your husband's faith and spirituality. I did not know he had passed on until a week later when I saw it in the Journal and have had you in my heart and thoughts ever since.

I hope he did not suffer. I know he was more than ready for the next life, and that his loving care and support are with you even more now than when he was present in the flesh.

It is comforting to know there is no real separation, and in your heart you never feel my close to him, no matter what others say.

I am glad your children share  
with you your confidence and interest  
place, and can give you the much  
needed human touch and loving  
understanding that as human beings  
we all need so desperately when our  
world cracks and changes so com-  
pletely the "daily round".

I am glad we know each other thru  
our reading and meditation. It makes  
me feel very close to you, and my  
arms are around you now, and I  
do look forward to a closer com-  
panionship in loving talks next  
summer.

Always lovingly

Rene Goddard Clark

Jan. 19-48 - Antigua, Guatemala, C. G.

Emma dear - Here I sit in my own palio - watching  
the men at work already up in the final  
stages of pulling in electric switches - final coating  
paint - grass seed on the lawn - etc. - So I do  
have hopes of more in before my sister  
Missus Paul & Lois Warner arrive. Howard  
was here for 3 busy weeks - and I did little  
else but follow him around & help where  
I could - letters by day or night second out  
of the queue. But you have been always  
in my heart - I have written you 3 times  
since I heard about St. Francis' death - but  
as I know of 2 letters that never arrived, I  
am wondering if any of mine to you  
failed to reach you. They could say little  
more than that I love you, and that you  
can always know. It is now a quieter but  
still busy & happy life here. Today the big  
Volcan is smoking more than usual - the  
sun is hot, the skies are lovely - and my  
little garden is very sweet and peaceful!  
I want you to tuck it into the back of your  
mind that some day you will come  
down into this odd corner of the  
world, and rest and enjoy it.

I understand there are some warm  
baths here very good for stiff joints  
and aches. I shall look it up &  
be able to tell you more about it by  
summer. - Carry love - we could  
leave some of our good long talks  
and read together - and live quietly.

I am thankful you love you dear  
Margaret's love you - I am wondering  
how long Paddy staid - and many  
other things I long to know about you.  
I love the baby news that my <sup>7</sup> is grand child  
is expected - in time Peru in July. I have  
not read much yet of the books I brought down  
so I cannot discuss my reading here + now.  
This will just take my love to you - I  
let you know you are always close  
and dear to me -

Heartedly -

Cassie

FOUR THE HIGH ROAD  
BRONXVILLE. NEW YORK

Dear Mrs. Speer,

You have always been so loyal a friend that I cannot but send you this little note of warm affection, and of deep appreciation of all that you and your husband have meant to me.

Ever since I have known of his going my memory has been carrying me back over the years to my student days when his voice was so persuasive and compelling in its call to a truly Christian life, and to the many times since when he has led the way in the life of the Spirit. I do not see of thousands



FOUR THE HIGH ROAD  
BRONXVILLE, NEW YORK

who give - it his going and who  
are grateful beyond words for his  
ministry to us all.

In these hours of sorrow and  
loneliness you share with him so  
triumphant a faith that I am  
sure it will comfort and sustain  
you.

With all my love,

Florence - Postick -

December second

Western Reserve Academy  
Hudson, Ohio

4 December, 1947

Dear Aunt Emma,

You must have been very shocked  
I was to learn of your great loss and how  
the shadow of it was very near during my  
Thanksgiving. I did hope to write you sooner, but  
as my word was second hand, I didn't get to see  
a Times until I reached Washington, and this  
seems to be my first opportunity since returning.  
No matter how great our Christian belief and  
our certainty that our dear ones who lived for  
Christ on earth are now living with him, the  
sorrow for us who remain is not a light one.  
Yet I realize that having had my Mother's and Father's  
loss and not that of a life long companion, I cannot  
fully understand what your grief is. Yet you have

you do have my deepest sympathy in a loss which  
is as loss for all the glorious memory of his service  
and certainty of his everlasting life.

I wish I knew a little more of the circum-  
stances, for it seems impossible to believe that one  
so alive as Uncle Rob was when I last saw him  
with you in June, might be seen here again on  
earth. Since the Times date he was Bryan Manor,  
I assume he was perhaps with Marie. But I  
do so very much hope that you also was there.

Nannie has told me of Pat's plans to come  
over in January, and I can hardly bear to think  
of her sorrow in missing, say so little the joy,  
of being with her Father. I do wish there was  
something tangible I could do to help. But I fear  
there isn't. I only hope that Bill and Mamma will  
be able to be with you as soon as their holidays come.

I can never be able to tell you how much  
ever since I first came to know you, his admiring  
as well as loved you and Uncle Rob, and how I've  
looked up to him as the very perfect example of

"Christian gentleman. And, though I'm possibly  
 been more fortunate than many in that I've  
 so frequently enjoyed the hospitality of your house.  
 I know from the impression his sermons have  
 left on me what a great inspiration he has  
 also been for countless young men - I know I  
 have heard him in his precious God's word  
 in schools and colleges, and helped with them  
 seem men and used in countless conferences and  
 discussion groups.

How little one can plan in this world! I'd  
 been so hoping that with the Christmas holidays  
 devoted to our wedding - the 20<sup>th</sup> in Washington  
 Kansas and I might be able to visit you during  
 the spring holidays and have her know Pat's father  
 and mother. In she so would have liked to  
 express to you personally her gratitude for all your  
 thoughtfulness and love that you've been in, and, and,

Trusts in joy in her coming here.

All God's comfort and blessing, ever be with  
Emma, and may you feel under the  
everlasting arms sustaining you in this  
sorrowful time.

With much love and deepest sympathy

Ever affectionately,

Howard

LAKEVILLE, CONNECTICUT

My dear Mrs. Spear:

I have had you on my heart ever since I learned of your sad news. I do hope you will be so surrounded by the love of your children, that that will in a measure keep you from being too lonely now without Dr. Spear. We are missing you in Lakeville, but happy for you that you can be with your daughter.

Please accept my love and sympathy. We hope to see you again very soon.  
Sincerely, affectionately Mary Miller

Page 5

Dearest Aunt Emma,

Thank you for your sweet letter. The poem you enclosed was so very close to my heart and oh, so true that it brought both mother and myself real comfort. Mother is brave and firm but naturally still very shocked. I'm glad she is with us and as my little twins will help her more than anything.

The accident occurred around nine o'clock Friday night on an icy highway up in Geneseo, Illinois. It happened very quietly with no pain or anything at all. Booth was happier than he'd almost ever been before

as I know no still is.

I'm hoping that mother will be  
able to sleep down here for at  
least a month, it so wonderful  
nursing her. She needs a rest and  
now seems a good time to have  
one.

Maddie and Mary, my little  
twins, are now almost three years  
old and so lively and full  
of fun. They talk a blizzard  
and are busy with all their  
toys all day long. I do wish  
that you could see them, Aunt Emma,  
they really are cute, if I do say  
so myself, just exactly what  
from their heads to their feet.

Thank you again, Aunt Emma,  
for your sweet letter and for  
sending me that beautiful poem.

Love of love,

Emily



314 EAST CLIFTON TERRACE  
CLIFTON STREET, N. W.  
WASHINGTON 9, D. C.

December 3, 1947

Dear, dear Mrs. Speer

It was such a shock  
to hear of Dr. Speer's going  
and I have been thinking  
much of you since. My love  
goes out to you in tender love  
and sympathy. What a  
glorious entering in to the  
life beyond must be his!  
And what a share you  
have had and have been  
in his wonderful ministry  
for the Church universal!  
It has been a very great-

314 EAST CLIFTON TERRACE

CLIFTON STREET, N. W.

WASHINGTON 9, D. C.

privilege to have known you  
both. There are so many  
to mourn his leaving this  
world that you will be over-  
whelmed with letters and  
I would not burden you,  
so don't feel you must ac-  
knowledge this note.

I wish Mrs. Barbour was  
not so far away.

Mary joins me in deepest  
sympathy

Affectionately

Elizabeth D. Lathrop

GOULD FARM  
GREAT BARRINGTON, MASS.

Feb. 24, 1948

Dear Mrs. Speer.

Timothy and I  
deeply appreciate your thoughtfulness  
in sending us the printed leaflets.  
They mean far more to us than any of  
the tributes we have seen. Each word  
is completely valid. For days after  
the news came, the line from Virginia  
Progress rang in our ears, as ~~they~~ if  
must have done for so many who knew  
and loved our friend. "And all the  
trumpets sounded for Jim on the other  
side." How glorious that is!  
We are all well,  
very well, except for Priscilla Scott, who

has had a heavy cold but is now  
gaining steadily under Florence's good  
care. Miss Shearman's love is  
certainly our gain. It is most wonder-  
ful for us to have Florence again.  
The main house and cottages are  
full to overflowing, unusually so  
for this time of year. We plan soon  
to open another cottage to give us a  
bit more room. There have been such  
interesting guests, one delightful  
party of which I want to tell you.  
They came indirectly through the  
Vilsons. Had a fine Viennese doctor  
and his wife. And some very nice  
Americans too!

The overcoat is large and would  
need real tailoring to fit Siddy. He thinks  
we had better pass it on, such as his love to  
wear it. Thank you again for sending it.  
Out ever lovingly. Love

at the Shipley Sch: but can't remember the sch: itself

Emerco  
Dear Emma  
to our  
Country

Jan: 7<sup>th</sup> 1946.

are  
for a leaf  
affected  
over  
Borobon

First the name -

I have lately heard from Bob  
telling me of your great loss.  
This letter brings to you much  
sympathy & love. I am so glad  
to have seen, tho' so few times,  
her speech. His kind, quiet under-  
standing personality was a joy  
to know those few times of meeting.

You will know you still have  
him & his endless love & thought.

What a blessing that love is  
eternal! But Bob knew in not-

So long ago, we picnicked  
talked about you all round  
the fire, I heard that he wasn't  
well. but had no realisation that  
it was serious. Am so glad you  
have the children & grande babies  
- his roots & yours. You were  
in my remembrance an all-embracing  
mother. Rockledge will have close  
mean much to you. I see that  
not dusty day we journeyed there  
so long ago. I see it absolutely now perhaps  
one day later in reality. So Marie is  
in Brynmawr. Remember seeing a play



Brown Memorial Church

BALTIMORE-17, MD.

THE CHURCH HOUSE

1316 PARK AVENUE

Nov. 26, 1947

Dear Mrs. ~~Lee~~:-

Elizabeth and I have been standing very close to you in our thoughts and - love and prayer ever since Marie's telegram came. She was a good friend to share the news with us - and for him, <sup>was</sup> glorious news. Because he will be fitting into this new stage



of living so perfectly. I love to think that he who loved and faithfully served the Lord Christ here, is now starting on a life of wider horizons with richer possibilities of service and always in the nearer presence of God.

But I know something of the likeness and warmth of his love - so I know how you will miss his visible nearness. Please let me be in the number of friends who loved him and love you and want to help bring God's strong comfort to you all.

Your friend  
Minnie Spens

①  
George Washington Hotel  
Washington, Pa., Feb. 9:

Dear Mother: (and dear Marie,  
too, for that matter, and dear  
Augusta):

I am now beginning  
my series of apologies - (not me,  
like Cardinal Newman,  
but piece by piece everyone I know, on  
the "East Coast", "Main Line"  
and general vicinage).

— for being so disabled while  
at home; and, <sup>also</sup> my series of  
regrets for practically not  
seeing any one at all.  
My cough was so awful &  
my eyes (plus 10 phias) —  
was, [it is], so awful — and

4/ my continually having -  
a cold was so stupid, that  
I didnt raise a hand (or a  
voice) even to speak on the  
telephone to anyone except for  
there, <sup>(Sharon?)</sup> <sup>desimal</sup> necessity;  
(in which category certainly  
know of you would not be  
put).

So I closed the house  
or sent away the "Blessing"  
and all those virtues, and  
made a heap for "the West"  
where at least I havent to  
many acquaintances to say  
"What is the matter with  
you?" - I can hide away.  
Agnes & John did surprise  
me very pleasantly, just before)



3. / left, by inviting me to Princeton  
on Sunday for Anne's birthday  
party, - (5 years old). I stayed  
at the Inn and it was lovely;  
- I came from there, joining  
the train at North Phila.

You also surprised me  
by joining the Princeton  
Church - C 12th Presbyterian;  
- Dr. Niles; - you know he was  
at that station in China which  
was supported from Dr. Lydie's  
Church in N. Y. C. and Mrs.  
Lydie, the minister's widow, -  
[Betty Cass's mother; who has  
just been visiting here, says they  
all like him very much. She  
now lives in Princeton.] What with  
you transferring his "letter"  
or membership, - from Dr. Green

to you all — & the loss was very definitely mine.  
I'm not receiving you all again. With much love,  
John Coleman

4 / Church of his childhood  
in Norwintony in the morning, —

~~Flame~~ asking in - load  
whisper: "Where is my  
Daddy?" / — & Anne's  
entertaining so largely  
in the afternoon — ("17 children  
and 16 grown-ups," as she  
said, — including four  
generations in various directions)  
— it was a very active

Sunday The weather here is  
cold, the sheets icy and  
the impatience chiefly  
marked by dentists &  
their ilk (not elk -) can't  
see what I am writing; but  
nobody can read & read  
this writing so its probability of no great  
importance. Thanks for everything

4 / Street of his children

<sup>in</sup> ~~morning~~ <sup>in</sup> the morning, -

~~He~~ <sup>in</sup> ~~came~~ <sup>in</sup> ~~asking~~ <sup>in</sup> ~~in~~ ~~bad~~ -

~~Whisper~~ <sup>in</sup> ~~there~~ <sup>is</sup> ~~my~~

~~trick~~ <sup>is</sup> ~~my~~ <sup>is</sup> ~~my~~

~~in~~ ~~the~~ ~~morning~~ <sup>is</sup> ~~so~~ ~~early~~

<sup>is</sup> ~~the~~ ~~afternoon~~ - (it's children

and he ~~from~~ ~~up~~ <sup>as</sup> ~~she~~

said, - <sup>in</sup> ~~looking~~ ~~from~~

~~in~~ ~~the~~ ~~direction~~ <sup>in</sup> ~~my~~ ~~action~~

- it was a ~~my~~ ~~action~~

~~Smiles~~ <sup>he</sup> ~~whether~~ ~~here~~ <sup>is</sup>

~~all~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~sheet~~ <sup>say</sup> ~~and~~

~~the~~ ~~confounding~~ ~~chiefly~~

~~marked~~ <sup>by</sup> ~~dentists~~ <sup>&</sup>

~~them~~ <sup>it</sup> ~~(not~~ ~~old~~ - ) ~~cut~~

~~see~~ <sup>how</sup> ~~our~~ <sup>writing</sup> <sup>is</sup> ~~but~~

~~the~~ ~~trick~~ ~~from~~ ~~trick~~ <sup>&</sup> ~~read~~

~~this~~ <sup>is</sup> ~~the~~ ~~first~~ <sup>of</sup> ~~the~~ ~~first~~

~~in~~ ~~the~~ ~~direction~~ <sup>of</sup> ~~everything~~

you all - & the loss was any definitely mine  
not seeing you all year. with much love, Allen Coleman

✓  
Los Angeles, California.

March 4, 1948

Mrs. Robert E. Spear,  
825 Montgomery Ave.,  
Bryn Mawr,  
Pennsylvania.

Dear Mrs. Spear:-

I want to thank you for the book " Five  
Minutes a Day" and particularly for your thoughtfulness  
in putting your autograph in it in lieu of Mr. Spear's. I  
get a lot of enjoyment in reading it.

I am enclosing a check for \$1.25 which I hope will cover  
the expense of sending it but will never take the place of  
my gratitude to you for taking the time out of, what I am  
sure is, a busy life to send it to me.

Again thanking you and extending my best wishes for  
you health and happiness, I remain

Yours sincerely,

*Thomas Hudson*

MRS. CLELAND B. MCAFEE  
735 WASHINGTON STREET  
WELLESLEY, MASS.

March 4  
1975

My dear friend:

My thoughts - and  
prayers are so often  
with you these first  
days I see some -  
and while I know you  
I wish, and your  
assurance always, &  
Gods love & care - and  
that his will I pray  
all always best - I know  
too, what you must  
live through as you face  
life - with that  
compassion which  
has been the best of  
earthly life for  
I believe our dear  
Heavenly Father must



know - as we know  
can - except, perhaps  
one who has loved  
from the same experience -  
how hard it is, to live  
on - and the fact that  
we can do it - means  
that our help from  
God, is very near,  
and real - I assure  
this I am repeatedly  
among my experiences  
and if I ever feel  
"In every path I find a  
lead the way "is comfort -  
I have meant to write you  
since reading, & seeing  
beautiful motto in the  
new Presbyterian Lib: for  
"men say" "Nothing could be  
said, that could be better  
at all - no be any other  
true in life & character - and  
I am sure that I am  
Obedient  
Elizabeth W. W.

EMMANUEL COLLEGE  
TORONTO

December 8, 1947.

✓  
Mrs. A. E. Speer,  
Rockledge,  
Lawrence, Conn.,  
U. S. A..

Dear Mrs. Speer:-

Since learning from Bill Coleman of the passing of Dr. Speer I have wanted to write you this brief note of sympathy. I am very happy to have the memory of the week-end which the four of us - Caroline, Elizabeth, Bill and myself - were privileged to spend with you and Dr. Speer in your home.

I knew that you will have received words of sympathy and appreciation from so many whom Dr. Speer influenced so greatly in the things which belong to our faith. I hope that these and those from your many and good friends will prove to be a real source of comfort and encouragement to you.

With kindest remembrances,

Sincerely,

Bill Coleman.

21.



*Committee on Cooperation in Latin America*

156 FIFTH AVENUE

NEW YORK 10, N. Y.

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HELEN M. ERLUND, *Asst. Sec.-Treas.*

*Telephone*  
WATRINS 9-1292

November 26, 1947

My dear Mrs. Speer:

In the midst of the multitude of those who wish to express their sympathy to you and your children at this time I must add my small voice.

I had the unusual opportunity, as you may know, of observing the great Robert E. Speer at work in the interests of God's Kingdom for many years. He was the Chairman of this Committee when I entered its service thirty-one years ago, and I became Mr. Speer's humble servant, as did every other member of our staff, from the moment we met him. I feel quite sure that he will remain always my ideal of a truly great Christian gentleman. Dr. Juan Orts Gonzales and I used to spend hours at luncheon together discussing with wonder the perfection that Mr. Speer had reached in the Christian way of life.

For those of you who have lost his physical presence among you I offer my heartfelt condolences. Your privileges of relationship to him have been so great that I hope there will be much thanksgiving in your hearts at this season despite your bereavement.

Most sincerely,

*Helen M. Erlund*

JAMES H. FRANKLIN  
6430 ROSELAWN ROAD  
RICHMOND 21, VIRGINIA

V  
December 3, 1957.

My dear Mrs. Speer:

Mrs. Franklin and I  
have been personally saddened &  
hearing of the death of your hus-  
band, whom we held in high honor  
and warm affection. Yet our sad-  
ness has <sup>been</sup> lightened by deep and  
lasting gratitude for his radiant  
Christian character, his world wide  
service and for the privilege that  
was ours in being able to call him  
our friend. I had felt his beneficent  
influence for over fifty years - fifty-  
seven, to be exact - and again again I  
have said, "I do not know a man I had  
rather be like than Robert Speer". What a  
rare combination of gifts and Christian  
graces he was!

With our sympathetic regards,  
I am Cordially yours,  
James H. Franklin.

Mrs. Robert E. Speer,  
Falmouth, Conn.

FIRST METHODIST CHURCH

Corner of Second and Dean Streets

Deposit, New York

Minister

Clyde Herbert Snell, S.T.B., Ph.D.

Residence

107 Second Street

Telephone 119

November 26, 1947

Dear Mrs. Speer:

Word has just reached us of the passing of your beloved husband. It may help a little, in the bearing of your sorrow, to know that our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family at this time of bereavement.

Heaven alone can measure the difference that his long and useful life has made with the world. Thousands upon thousands have looked to him as their spiritual guide and counselor.

I shall always be grateful to God that it became my happy privilege to know him in the intimacy of a gracious, cordial, friendly neighbor during the three years we spent in the lovely town of Sabersville.

FIRST METHODIST CHURCH

Corner of Second and Dean Streets

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107 Second Street

Telephone 119

While we all rejoice in the "Better Things" that are his, we know your spirits will be almost overwhelmed by the sense of your loss.

Mrs. Snell joins with me in the prayer that your spirits may be strengthened, and your grief assuaged, by a Presence that is more than human.

Sincerely yours,

Clyde Herbert Snell

GEORGE HOWORTH  
45 GRAMERCY PARK NORTH  
NEW YORK

Nov. 25. 1947.

My dear Mrs Speer,

Mrs Howorth and I want you to know we are thinking about you in your sorrow and sympathizing with you. We cannot regret that Dr. Speer is at home with his Father whom he so affectionately called upon in his prayers and whom he served so faithfully and long but we do regret parting with a friend whom we greatly admired. We know that God will grant you grace sufficient to your need.

Mrs. Robert E. Speer.  
Lexington  
Conn.

Very sincerely

George Howorth



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WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

297 Fourth Avenue, New York 10.

GRamercy 5-3475

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Nov. 20<sup>th</sup>

Dear Mrs. Speer:

I was grieved to read the news in the N. Y. Times this morning. It will seem strange not to know that Dr. Speer's sure hand is on the tiller even though he had formally laid down his command several years ago.

The closing of a distinguished Christian life is reconciling and beautiful, but there is another well-loved personality who will be missing from the ranks of men whose leadership stood out and whose serene faith gave courage to all of us.

With utmost sympathy to you and to Mrs. Speer, — Antonia H. Froendt.



THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS  
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

156 FIFTH AVENUE  
NEW YORK 10. N. Y.

OFFICE OF SECRETARY

January 15, 1948

Mrs. Robert E. Speer  
825 Montgomery  
Bryn Mawr, Pa.

My dear Mrs. Speer:

Returning from a two months trip in Europe I find the enclosed letter which was not sent on to you in the communications forwarded to you by Dr. Ruland who was serving as chairman of the Administrative Committee during my absence.

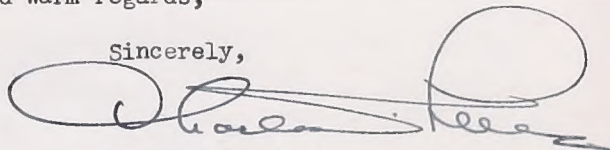
As Dr. Benjamin J. Bush, our World Council representative in Geneva, and myself cabled you from Paris when we learned of Dr. Speer's death you know how deep was our thought of you when we learned of the passing of our great leader.

It was a real sorrow to me not to be present to share in the memorial service to Dr. Speer in the First Presbyterian Church in New York City. You will know how very near I was with you in spirit.

May God continue to comfort and bless you these meaningful days. Mrs. Leber and I appreciated the personal note which you sent to us on the beautiful card of remembrance you shared with us.

With all good wishes and warm regards,

Sincerely,



Charles T. Leber

/a

✓  
504 Wesley Buildings  
299 Queen Street West  
Toronto 12  
Canada.

December 27, 1947

Rev. Robert E. Speer, D.D.  
156 5th Avenue  
New York.

Dear Dr. Speer:

I was one of the students from Toronto at the Volunteer Convention held in Toronto in 1902, and it was there that I volunteered for the Foreign Mission field. I graduated from the University of Toronto and from Knox College of this city, in 1906. The same year I married Margaret MacKay, only child of the late Dr. R. P. MacKay, D.D., whom, I believe, you remember with affectionate memory. That Autumn we left for China, and just this month I am severing my connection with our Overseas Missions Board, after forty-one years' service.

Since coming home, I have written a book on the liquor evil, a copy of which I am sending you under separate ~~address~~ cover. If you would care to give me your criticism of it, I would be very glad to receive it. Much of the book applies especially to the United Church, but the general principles are wider.

Since the enclosed leaflet was printed many other appreciations of the book have been received, including one from Dr. James S. Stewart, of North Morningside Church, Edinburgh, whom, I expect, you know.

Yours sincerely,

*Andrew Thomson*

WALTER LOWRIE WHALLON, D. D.,  
MINISTER  
MANSE, 30 ROSEVILLE AVENUE

OFFICE OF  
THE ROSEVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
ROSEVILLE AND SUSSEX AVENUES  
NEWARK 7, NEW JERSEY

LAURA EDNA HANNAHS  
MARY CAMPBELL VEDDER  
ASSISTANTS TO THE MINISTER

TELEPHONE HUMBOLDT 3-3361

✓  
November 22, 1947

Dear Dr. Sperr,

I am sorry to learn from you that you have not been well during these weeks following the Trustees meeting at Princeton. I earnestly hope that the hospital rest will have rewarding results and that you will soon be entirely well and in full strength again.

You have been following a very full program which surely made demands upon your strength. We hope you will be able to go on with the plans you have had in mind for weeks to come. But we certainly do not want you to overtax your strength.

The Trustees of Princeton Seminary have been very proud to have you as Chairman or rather President of our Board. I talked

WALTER LOWRIE WHALLON, D. D.,  
MINISTER  
MANSE, 30 ROSEVILLE AVENUE

OFFICE OF  
THE ROSEVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
ROSEVILLE AND SUSSEX AVENUES  
NEWARK 7, NEW JERSEY

LAURA EDNA HANNAHS  
MARY CAMPBELL VEDDER  
ASSISTANTS TO THE MINISTER

TELEPHONE HUMBOLDT 3-3361

over your letter to me about this with Dr Mackay last Monday evening. We are agreed that while we are sorry indeed to even think of going on without having you as our President, your request must be respected. We want you to continue on our Board for years to come for you are beloved by every member.

I will write to the other members of the nominating Committee telling them of your letter and your request. If you have any suggestions as to the one whose name should be presented at the end of the year to succeed you, I will deeply appreciate your counsel.

The Secretaries and members of the Board of Foreign Missions to whom I spoke on Monday and Tuesday wished me to assure you of their deep interest and prayers for your full recovery. You will be in the thoughts and prayers of Mrs Whallon and myself. Most cordially,  
Walter L. Whallon